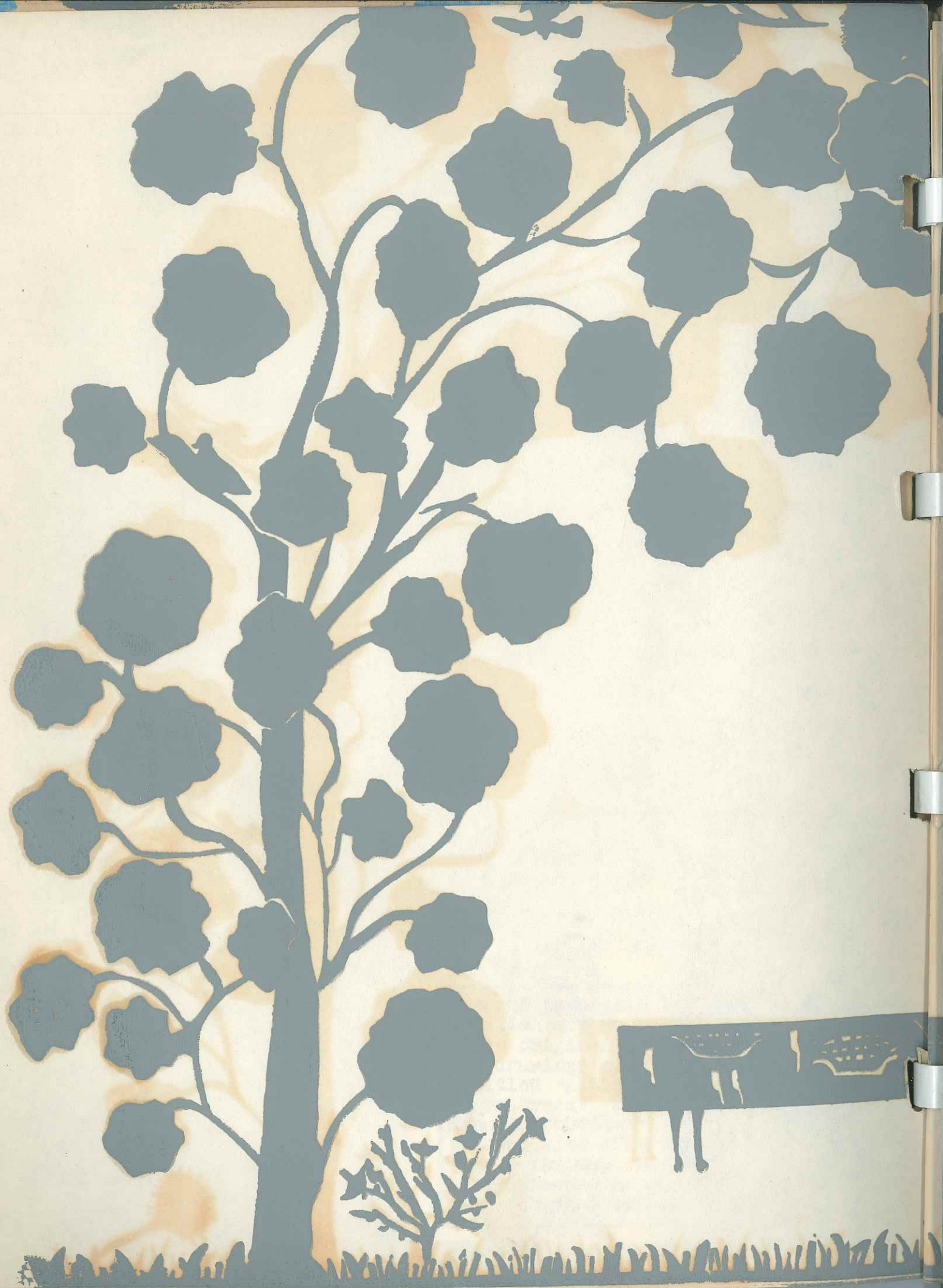


Songs of the
SHAKERS

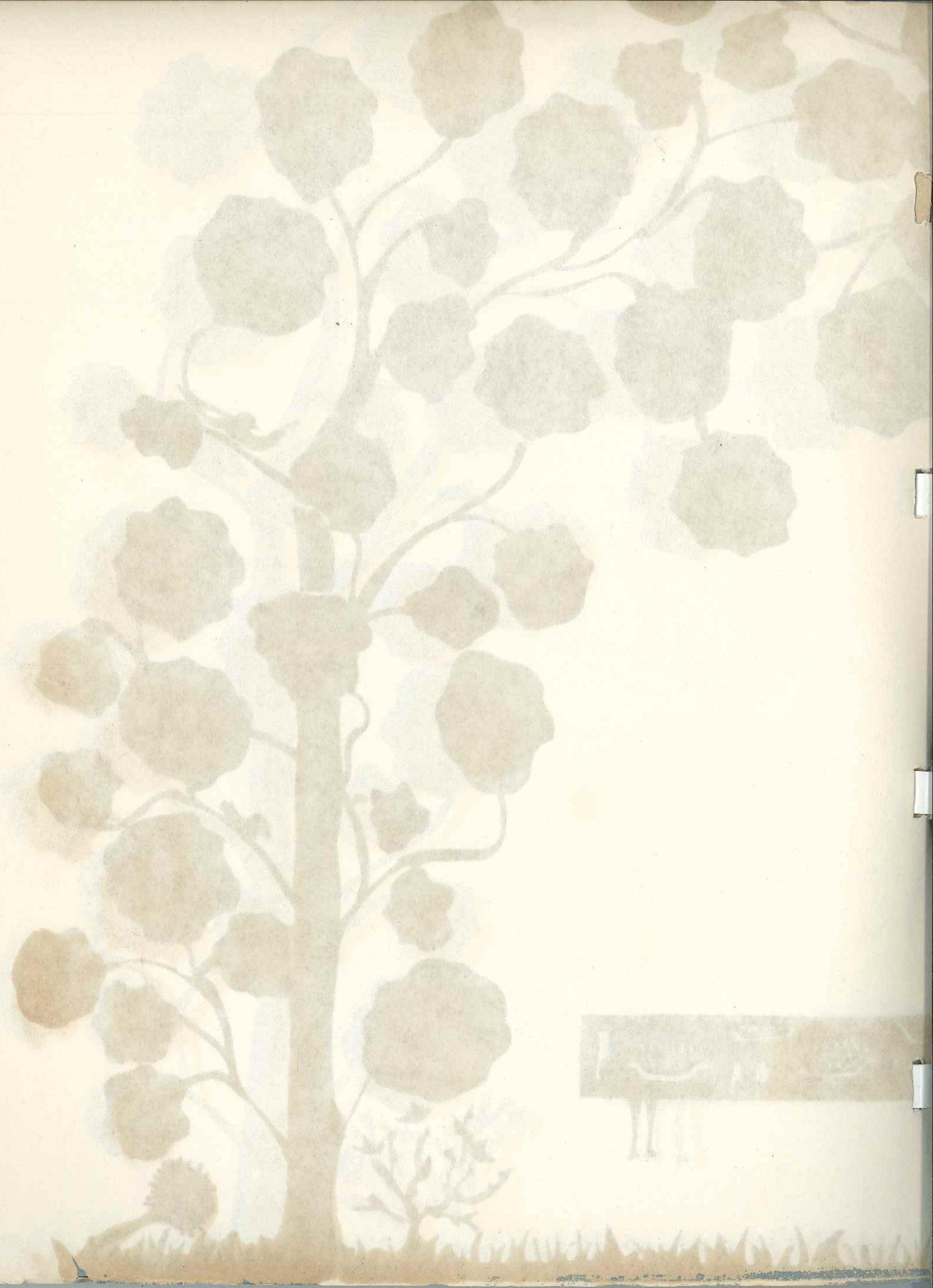
Shaker Village Work Camp
P. O. BOX 1129
PITTSFIELD, MASS. 7

The end papers in this publication are an adaptation of an original Shaker "spirit drawing" made in 1854, entitled "A Bower of Mulberry Trees", by Sister Hannah Cohoon, at the present site of Shaker Village Work Camp. Adapted and hand-screened by the Art and Silk Screen Workshop, 1956.









Introduction

This book is a collection of comparatively little known songs which reflect the beautiful simplicity and ideals of the Shakers. These songs were an important part of their religion, culture, and recreation. Shaker life in the entirety was one of communal life, thus the songs were used as an expression of religious fervor by the community and an offering to God rather than for arts sake. Typical of the earlier meetings were songs, unplanned and unorganized, each person joining in spontaneously according to his own personal inspirations. In later years they organized into families with a larger following, their singing became more orderly, unison singing developed, and the first Shaker songs were written down. They started using the conventional form of notation, but later abandoned it in favor of one they originated using the letters of the alphabet. They felt that in this way, it was simpler for the people to read music. Because of the importance of music in their religion, they wanted everyone to have the ability to join in. Since their life was without worldly pleasures, they found in their songs great emotional release. The sensuous elements not found in their daily were expressed in the many songs which mention food, wine, and jewelry.

The Shakers left behind them a large collection of songs some of which were drawn from folk songs and classical themes of that period. But the most fascinating of these

songs were written in the heat of a religious inspiration.

Since these "visionary" songs were created by people with little musical knowledge, the melodic structure tended to be unconventional. Many of these visions came to the Shakers in strange imaginary tongues from all over the world.

Also included in the collection are; hymns, songs for dancing and marching, songs of humility ("low") songs, and gestural songs. The violent motions accompanying the gestural songs are responsible for their name, the Shakers.

The research, planning, illustrations, and printing of this book, was done by the teenagers at Shaker Village Work Camp.

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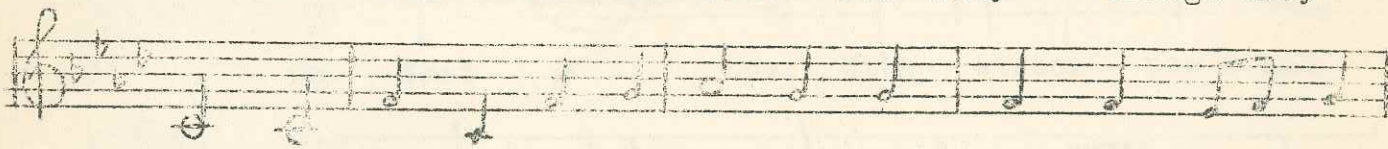


TRINIDAD

A PEOPLE CALLED CHRISTIANS



A peo ple called Christians how many things they



tell a - bout a land of Ca - naan where saints and angels



dwell But sin that dreadful o - cean en - closes them a



round with its tides still di - vides them from



Canaan's hap - py ground

A PRAYER

Grant me, O Lord, my fer-vent prayer As
at Thy feet I bow: With wisdom pow'r and
heav'nly love O do my soul en- dow.
In ev -'ry tri al then ap pear Be
fore me spread Thy light, My hands and feet My--
tongue, my heart O- God, do guide a right.

The musical score consists of six staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words like 'O' and 'en-' having a dash underneath them. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

COME SHAKER LIFE



Come life, Sha~~k~~er life, Come life eternal. Shake shake out of me



all that is car - nal. I'll take nim - ble steps,



I'll be a Da - vid. I'll show Michael twice how he be-hav-ed.

COME TO ZION

Arr. AKS

Come to Zi- on, Come to Zion sin sick souls in sorrow bound

Come to Zi-on come to Zion sin sick souls in sorrow

Lay your cares upon the altar where true healing may be found.

bound. Lay your cares upon the altar where true healing may be

Come to Zi- on may be found. Shout al-le- lu - ia

found. Come to healings found.

al - le - lu - ia praise resounds o'er land and sea.

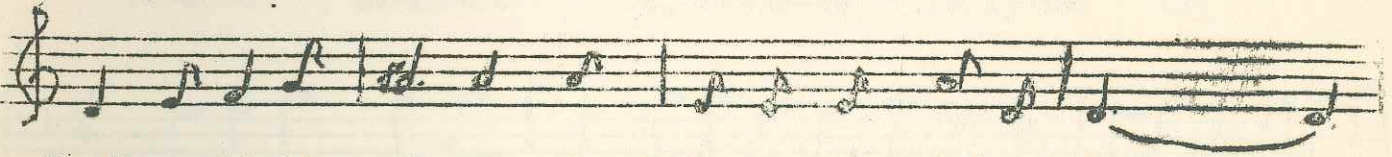
All who will may come & share the glories of this ju - bi - lee.

All who will may come & share this glorious jubi- lee.

FOLLOWERS OF THE LAMB



O Brethren ain't you happy, O Brethren ain't you happy, O



Brethren ain't you happy, Ye followers of the Lamb.



Sing on, dance on, followers of Emanuel,

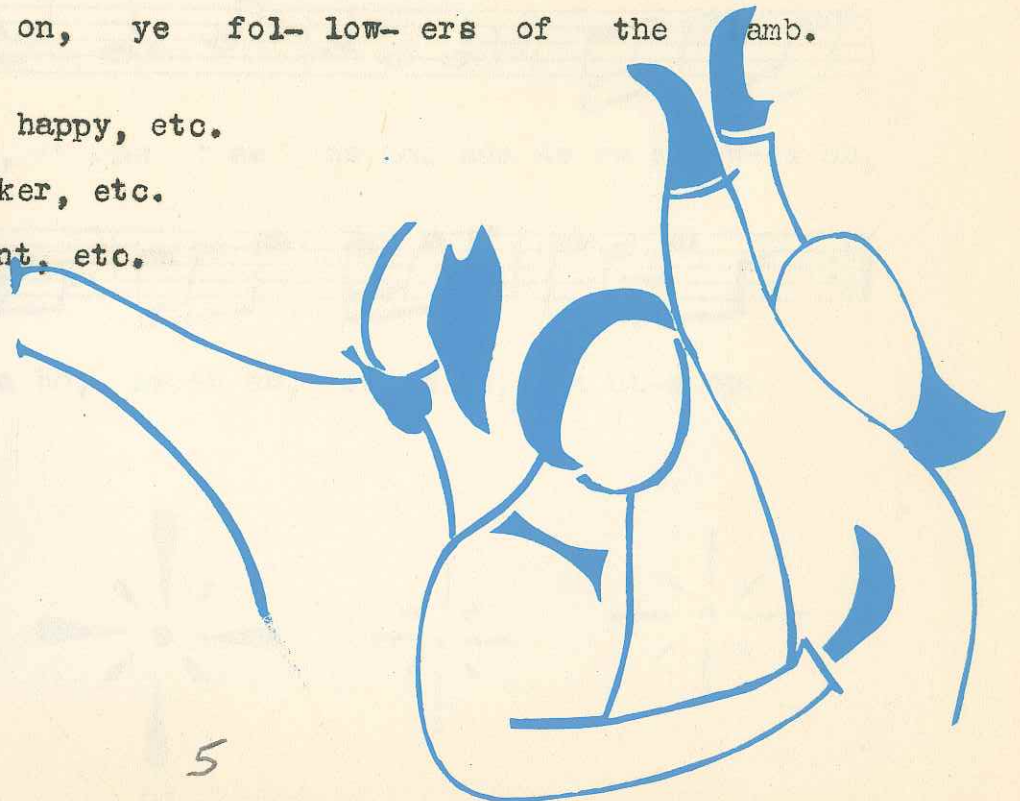


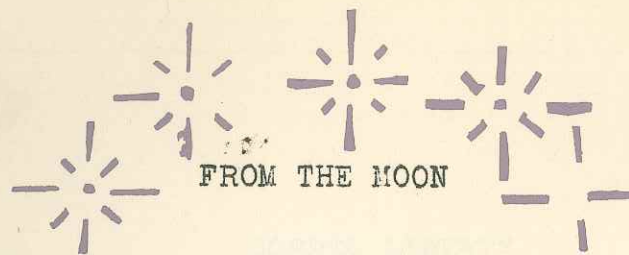
Sing on, dance on, ye followers of the Lamb.

2. O Sisters ain't you happy, etc.

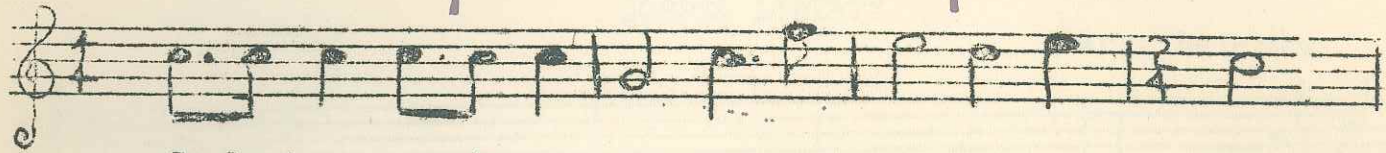
3. I'm glad I am a shaker, etc.

4. I mean to be obedient, etc.





FROM THE MOON



Se-le-i as-ka-na va, ves-e-ven ve - ne vi,



Ve-le-o as-ka-na fa, Fe-ne-es veen fe-ne fi.



Ve-se-fa ve-ne-fa ve-ne fen-ne fen-ne Eiy va-se-fa ve-se-va



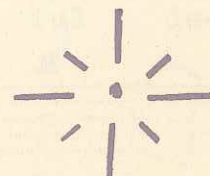
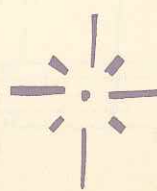
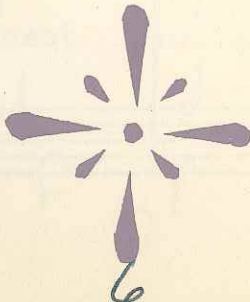
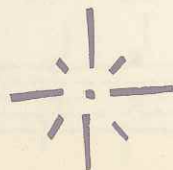
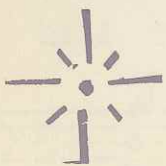
veen fen-ne fi. O, ho ho ho! Oh, ho ho ho!



Haw ew oh hoo hoo, .. aw ew aw hoo hoo Aw ew aw, ew-ew oh,



ho-a oh-a oh-a ho, Aw ew aw, ew oh oh, ho oh-a oo.





GOSPEL LIBERTY

Arr. Laderman

Who

We read of a people in ages long past

wished their neighbors no ill.

Yet were perse-

and driven from mountain to

cuted and daily har-rass'd

hill. These in-no-cent souls had no law-ful de-



GOSPEL LIBERTY (cont'd.)

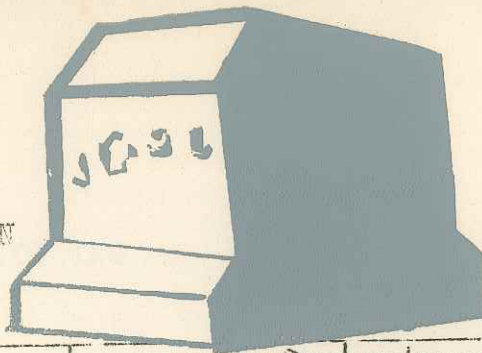
fense. But if per - se - cu - tors now say,

ban-don your faith or we'll ban-ish you hence. In

rea - son we an - swer them Nay Nay Nay. In

rea-son we an - swer them nay.

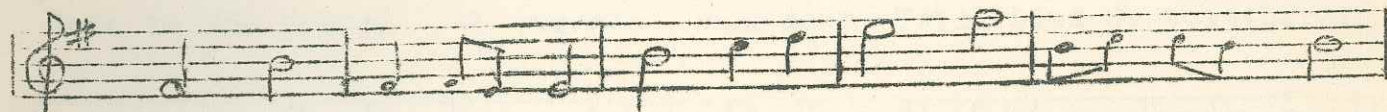
FUNERAL HYMN



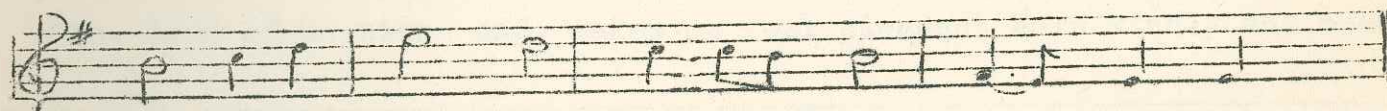
Our brother's gone, He is no more; He's quit our coast He's



left our shore. He's burst the bonds of mortal clay. The spirit's



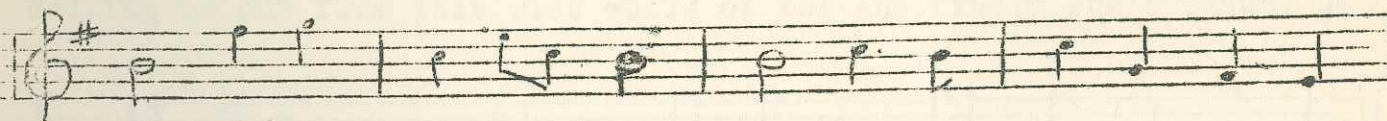
fled and soars a - way. We now may hear the so - lemn call:



"Be ye pre- pared both great and small;" The call ex-



cludes no sex nor age, For all must quit this mortal stage



Then let the righteous sing, When from cor - ruption they get

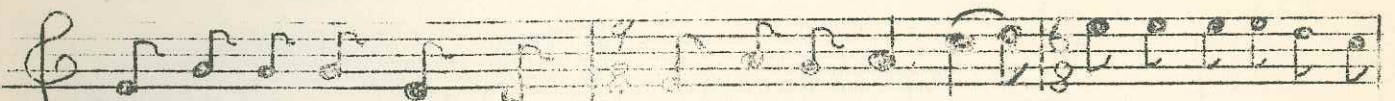


free: O death where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?

HERE'S LOVE AND REJOICING




Here's love and re-joicing dear Brethren and Sisters, Yea



love to the Gospel so precious and dear 'Twill bind us together in



one bond of u-nion and makes us feel pleasant More kindly and near



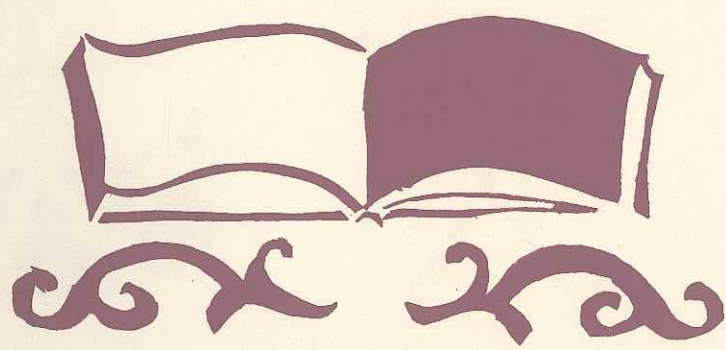
O - praise our blest Mother for her loving kindness in



calling us out from this wide world of woe And kindly she's taught us



gave us her precepts And shown us the path where in we should go



I HAVE A LITTLE DRUM

I have a little drum that Mother gave to me, the

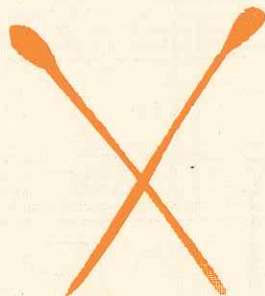
prettiest little drum that ev- er you did see.

I'll drum night and day. I'll drum night and day to

Rum ta ta tum Rum ta ta tum tum

call vol- un- teers to fight sin a- way.

Rum ta ta tum tum Rum ta ta tum.



I MEAN TO BE OBEDIENT

I mean to be o- be- di- ent and cross my e- vil

na- ture and share in Mother's love she's sent to ev'ry honest

creature. My tongue in u- nion shall u- nite my voice in sweet de-

vo- tion. My eyes be- hold my heart's de- light, my

hands and feet in motion.

I'M ON MY WAY TO ZION



I'm - on my way to Zion, that peaceful happy mansion where



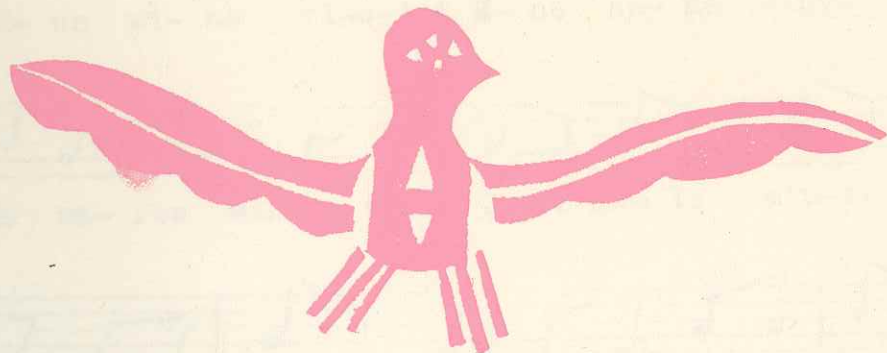
life is even flowing and death is never known. Come on my well



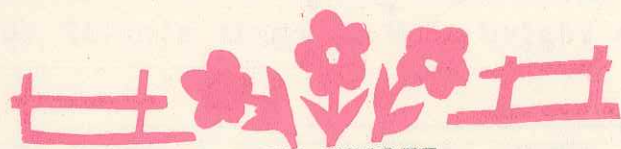
beloved, Ye whom the Lord hath saved. Let not your heart be troubled:



you'll soon arrive at home.



This song was first sung by a visionist in New Lebanon, who received it from the natives in the heavenly world, in the year 1838. The words were wingum wingum wingum waw.

INE VINE VIOLET

I- ne vi- ne vi-o-let E- ne se- ne vingo pret,
 Y- fen wa- fen wane voo, O- le mo- le min-zy two.
 Acren wacren wa- ny vo Mothers love is e- ven so.
 Un- ne e- ne I- ne va, Now in love we'll dance & play.

I'VE SET MY FACE FOR ZION'S KINGDOM



I've set my face for Zi-on's kingdom, Holy bright and glorious



I've set my face for Zi-on's kingdom, Ho-ly, bright and glo-rious



I've set my face for Zi-on's kingdom, Holy bright and glorious



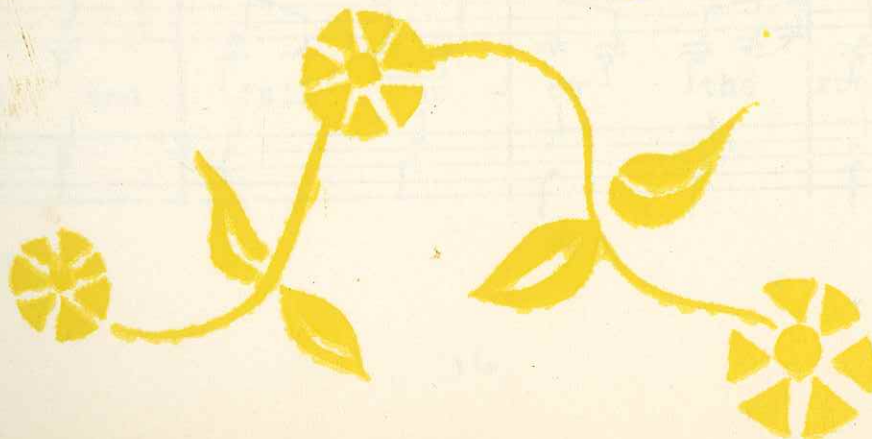
I've set my face for Zi-on's kingdom, Holy bright and glorious, though



boist'rous winds may often blow Though boist'rous winds may often blow



To that bright home I'm bound to go. To that bright home I'm bound to go



I WILL BOW AND BE SIMPLE

Arr. D. Loe

I will bow and be simple, I will bow and be free, I will

I will bow and I'll be simple

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef on the top staff and a bass clef on the bottom staff. The treble staff contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The bass staff contains a simple accompaniment of quarter notes. The lyrics "I will bow and I'll be simple" are written below the treble staff, with vertical lines connecting the words to the notes.

bow and be humble, Yea bow like the wil-low tree.

I'll bow like the wil-low tree.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a melodic line with some slurs, and the bass staff has a steady accompaniment. The lyrics "I'll bow like the wil-low tree." are written below the treble staff.

I will bow this is the token, I will wear the easy yoke, I will

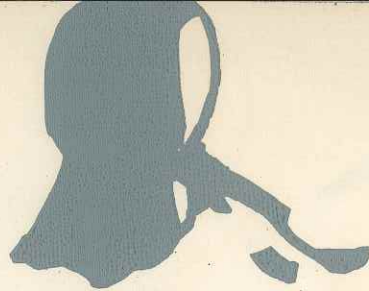
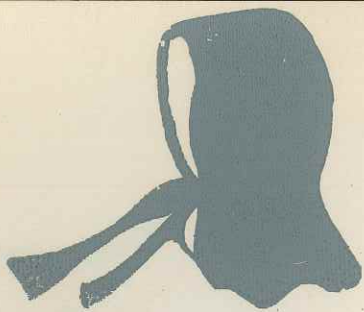
I will wear the ea-sy yoke, I will

The third system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a melodic line with some slurs, and the bass staff has a steady accompaniment. The lyrics "I will wear the ea-sy yoke, I will" are written below the treble staff.

bow and be broken, Yea I'll fall up-on the rock.

bow and fall up-on the rock.

The fourth system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a melodic line with some slurs, and the bass staff has a steady accompaniment. The lyrics "bow and fall up-on the rock." are written below the treble staff.



JOY IN ZION

Arr. Laderman

The Is-ra-elites when they got free from Pharaoh's land in

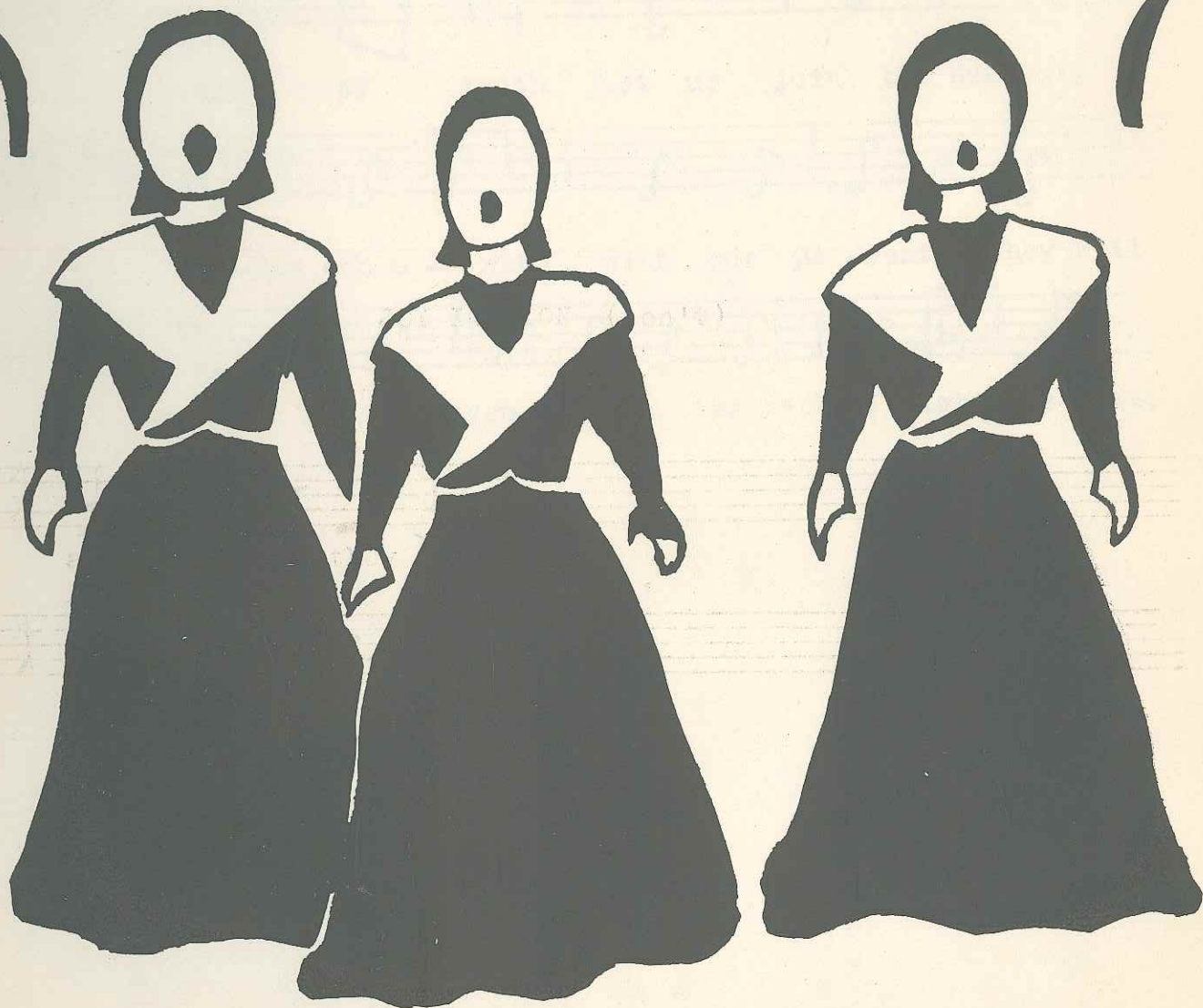
haste did flee. And on the banks of

the Red Sea a joyful scene commenced. An El-der

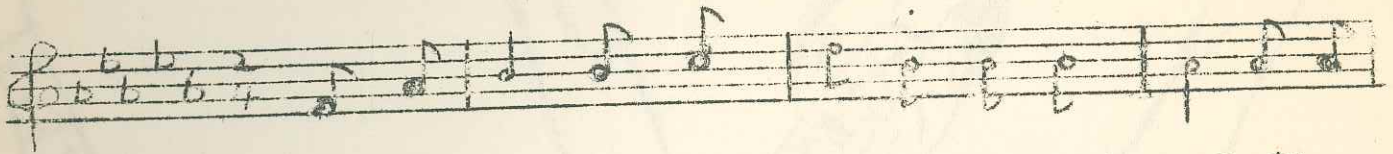
sister led the band with sounding tim- brel in her
with sounding tim- brel in her

hand. While vir- gins move to her commands and
While virgins move by her commands and

JOY IN ZION (con't)



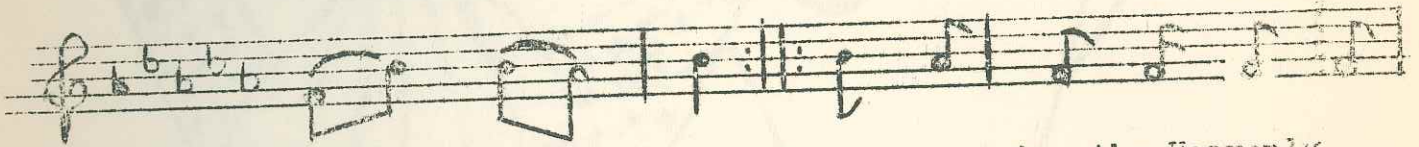
LIVING SOULS, LET'S BE MARCHING



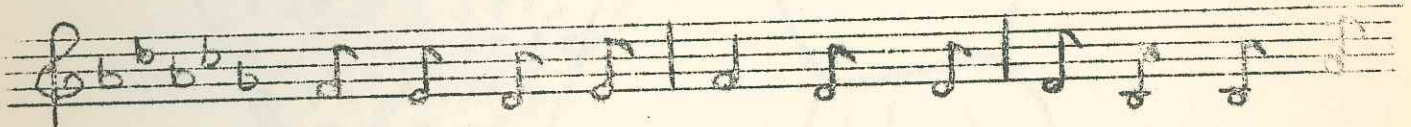
Living souls let's be marching on our journey to



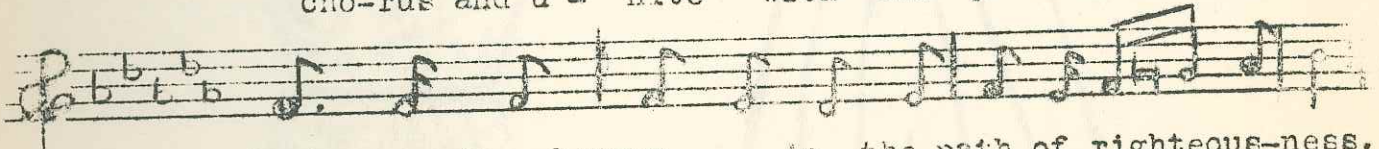
heaven with our lamps trimmed and burning with the



oil of truth Let us join the Heavenly



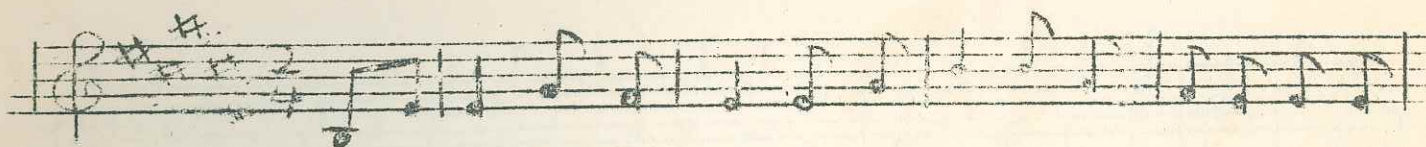
cho-rus and u - nite with our pa - rents They will



lead us to heaven in the path of righteous-ness.



LOOK UP THROUGH THE CLOUDS



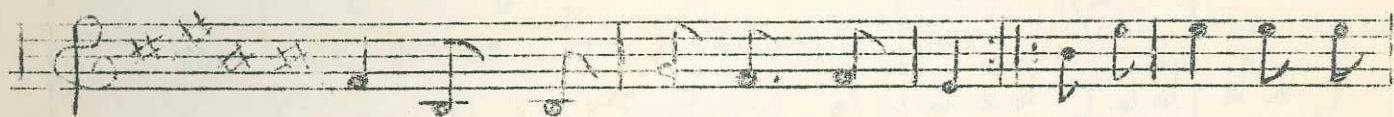
Look up thro' the clouds to the sunlight of heaven For th



wheels of progression are moving today; Look



up and fear not, for the sun hath a-risen and the



shadows are 'passing' away Let your heart be



encouraged and your hands be strengthened for Jehovah is



with us of a truth He is guarding His temple from the



powers of evil O Zion of God upon us



LOVE, LOVE, HEAVENLY LOVE

Love O love is sweetly flowing on its banks are lilies growing

These our mother is be-stow-ing Love love heavenly love

Come ye children freely gather learn to love & bless each other

This will bind our hearts together in love love heavenly love.

MOTHER ANN'S SONG

An example of the Shaker letteral notation.

D||³: a b c d | d c d | a g p q | q g ³ a b | c c | c d b a g | a a | a b c d

d c d | a g p q | q g ³ a b | a f c k c | d d | g w

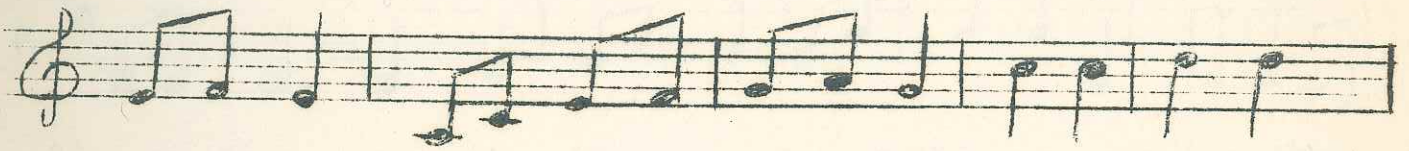
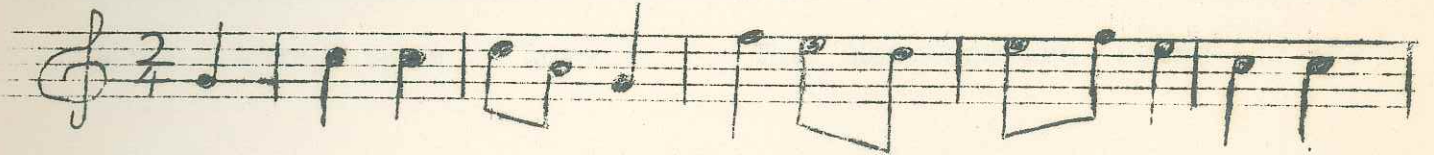
: g b c d | d d p | e d e | e a b | c c | c d b a g | a a | a b c d d d p

e d e | c c d c | b a p k e | d d d : ||

D||^{b*} a : a c d | c : b | a a g | b a | a g b | a g | p e l e | d d d

: e | p g a b | a g p q | p b a g | p e l e | d d d . ||

MARCHING TUNE



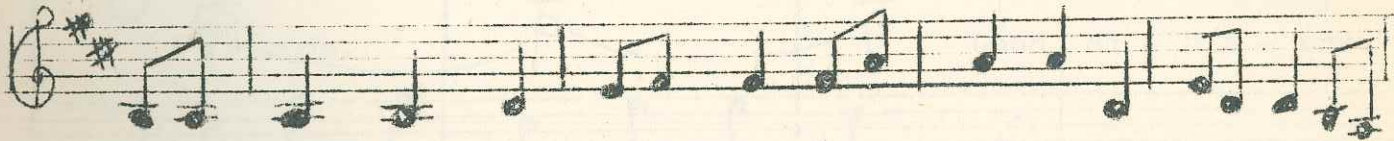
MORE LOVE



More love, more love; The heav-ens are bless-ing The



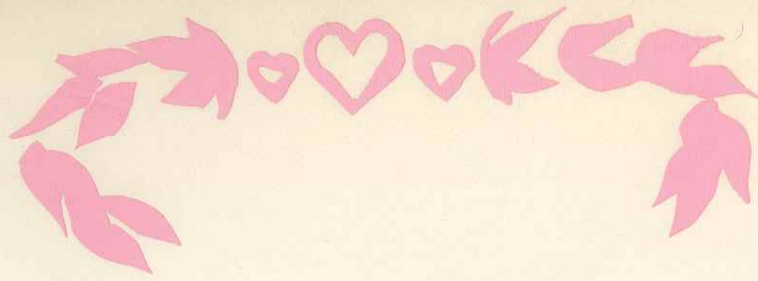
an - gels are call-ing O Zi-on, more love.



If ye love not each other in daily com-mun-ion, How



can ye love God, Whom ye have not seen



MOST DEARLY BELOVED AND BEST OF ALL FRIENDS

Most dearly be - lov - ed and best of all

Most

friends. Good Mi - nis - try

dearly be - lov - ed of friends.

El - ders whose love ne - ver ends.

Love ne - ver ends. And

La la la, la la la, La la la,

kind lov - ing bre - thren and sis - ters fare -

MOST DEARLY BELOVED AND BEST OF ALL FRIENDS (cont'd)

la la la la la. Your kind - ness no mor - tal can

well. Your love and your kind - ness no mortal can

tell.

MOST DEARLY BELOVED AND BEST OF ALL FRIENDS (cont'd)

2. We thank and we bless you for all your kind care.
(We bless you for all your kind care.)
Still wishing an interest in your tender prayer.
(Your tender prayer.)
So kindly so dearly so lovely farewell.
(La la la, la la la, la la la, la la la la la.)
So lovely so dearly so kindly farewell.
(So dearly so kindly farewell.)

tell. Your love and your kind - ness no mortal can

MOTHERS LOVE



Jump take Mother's love

Me bring it freely



From the shiny worlds above

See it sparkle clearly

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE



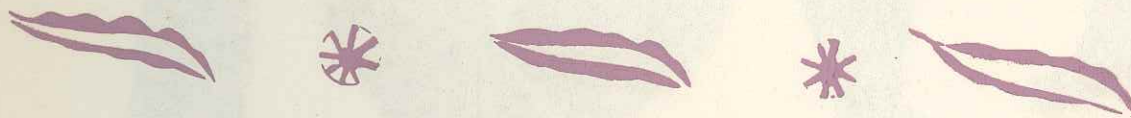
Love, love, love O what pretty loves, Father loves us, mother loves us,



I love you and we love one another, O what pretty loves



O what good pure love.





MOTHER ANN'S CLOSET

This then is the place which was Mother's dark pris-on, All

one drear-y night when this cot-tage was new, The wick-ed sur-

round-ing till-- morn-ing had ris-en To smile on the wilder-ness

glit-t'ring with dew. The his-to-ry told me has oft been re-

peat-ed But now it comes home, its im-pres-sions are-mine, A

dread-ful im-pris-on - ment tho' it de-feat-ed The pur-pose of

men in their bar-b'rous de - sign

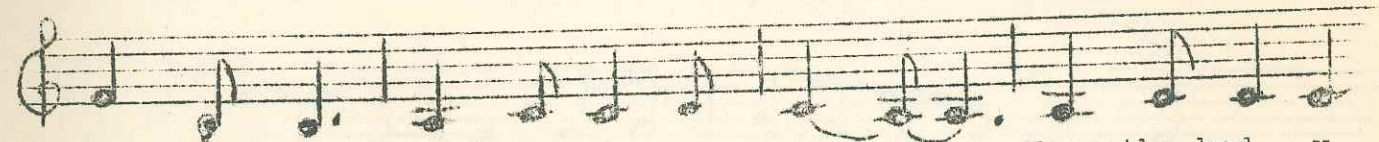
ONE TWO THREE STEPS



One two three steps foot straight at the turn One two



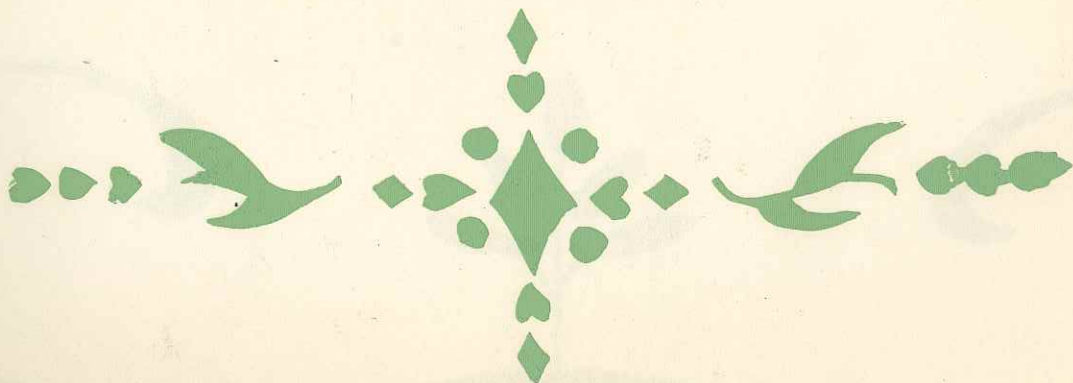
three steps e-equal length sol-id parts Strike the shuf-fle



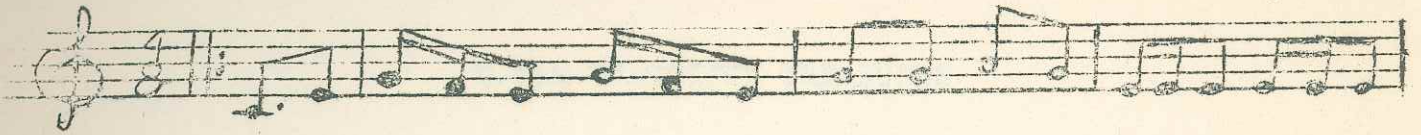
lit-tle back make the sol-id sound, Keep the bod-y



right e-rect with ev'-ry joint un-bound



O SAN-NISK-A-NA



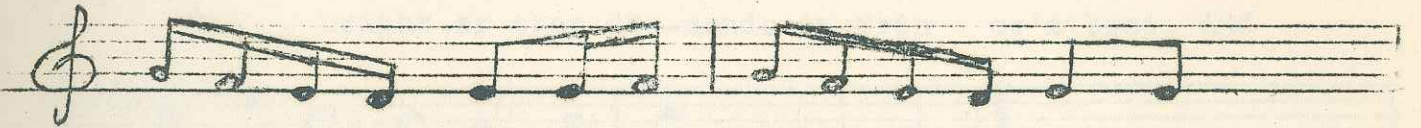
O san-niska- na nisk-a-na, haw, haw, haw, fan-nick-a-na niskana



haw, haw, haw. O san-nisk-a-na, nisk-a-na yea se-ne



aw fan-a-na nisk-a-na, haw, haw, haw, haw. O san-



nisk-a-na-na, haw, haw, fan-nik-a-na-na, haw, haw



O sen-a-go fan-a, nick-a-na-na na nick-a-na-na



O sen-a-go fan-a, nick-a-na-na.



O. THE BEAUTIFUL TREASURES



O the beau - ti - ful treas - ures laid up for the



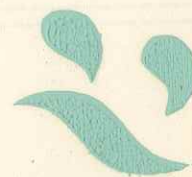
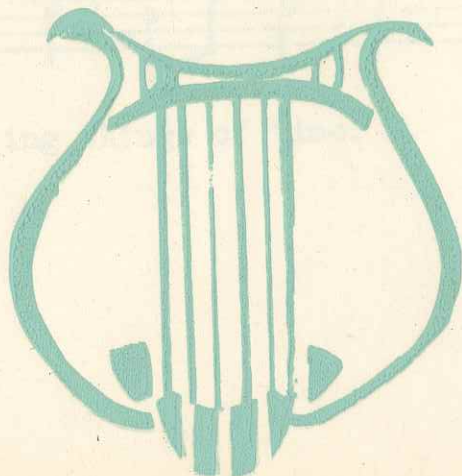
wise, How pre - cious the val - ue, how glo - ri - ous the prize.



Far ___ bright - er than dia - monds on prin - ce's brow, And



rich - er than roy - al - ty can be - stow.





SHEPHERDESS SONG



How beau-ti-ful are those, and how bless-ed they



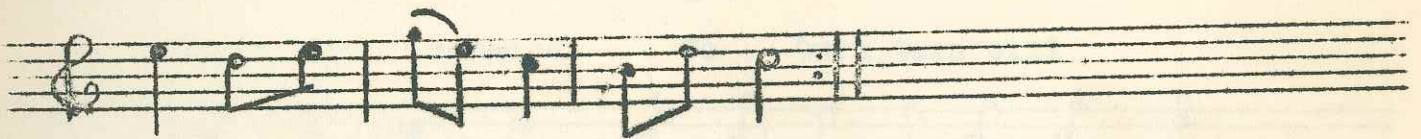
be, who in deep tri-bu-lation dai-ly fol-low me. I



have a robe di-vine-ly fair for such chil-dren to wear,



And a crown shin-ing bright they shall wear with de-light when



done with the fad-ing things of time.

SIMPLE GIFTS

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'Tis the gift to be free. 'Tis

gift to come down where we ought to be and

when we find ourselves in the place just right, 'Twill

be in the valley of love & delight. When true sim

pli - ci - ty is gain'd To bow and to bend we

shan't be ashamed. To turn, turn will

be our delight Till by turning turning we

come round right.

THE HUMBLE HEART



Whence comes the bright ce- les- tial light, what



cause pro - duc - es this? A heav-en opens



to my sight, Bright scenes of joy and bliss



O Lord Jehovah, art thou here? This



light proclaims thou art. I am indeed



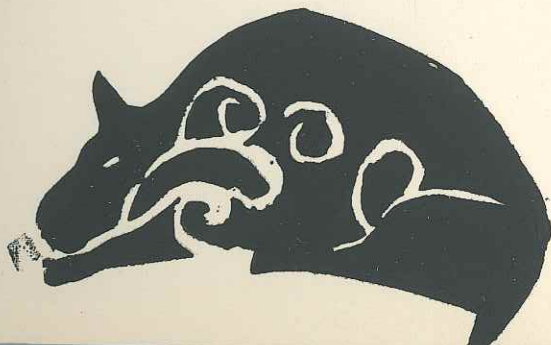
I'm al-ways near, un- to the humble heart.



THE LAMB'S REVELATION

1. In the lamb's first re - ve - la - tion tho he sought from
East to West. Fa - ther of the new cre - a - tion,
once on earth he suf - fered pain. Now he comes to
take posse - sion; now the beast has closed his reign.

2. He could find no habitation;
No abiding place of rest.



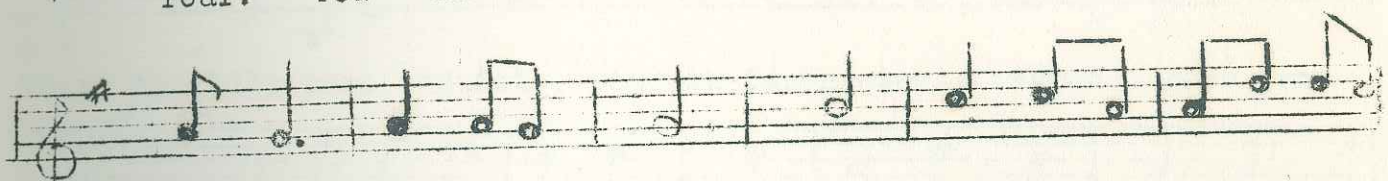
THE VOICE OF GOD



I will roar roar roar I will roar roar



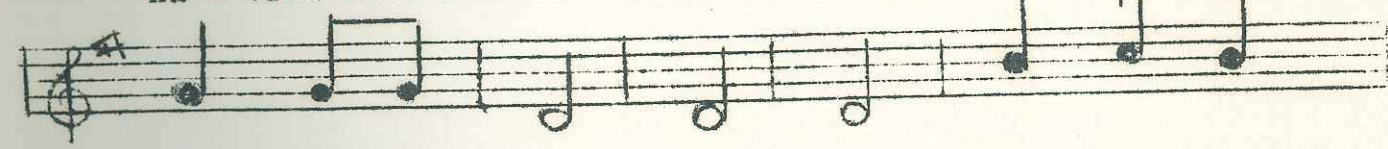
roar. Yea and I'll howl howl howl in my



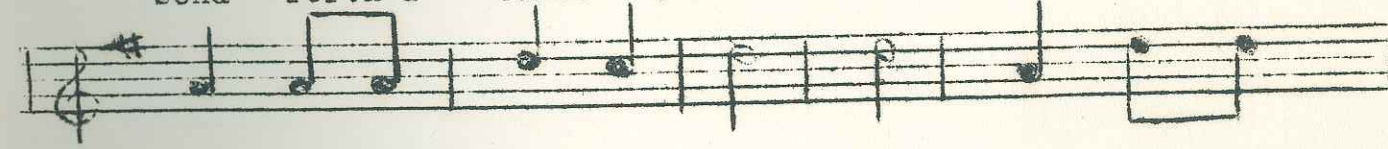
fu - ry sa - ith the Lord - be - cause of the abomi -



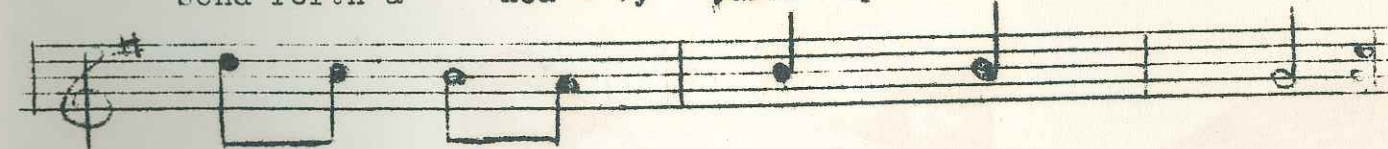
na - tion that rests in my Zi - on. And I will



send forth a curse curse curse. Yea I will



send forth a hea - vy curse up - on the in -



ha - bi - tants that dwell in her.

TO THE REALMS OF PEACE



To the realms of peace and love with my companions I will move,



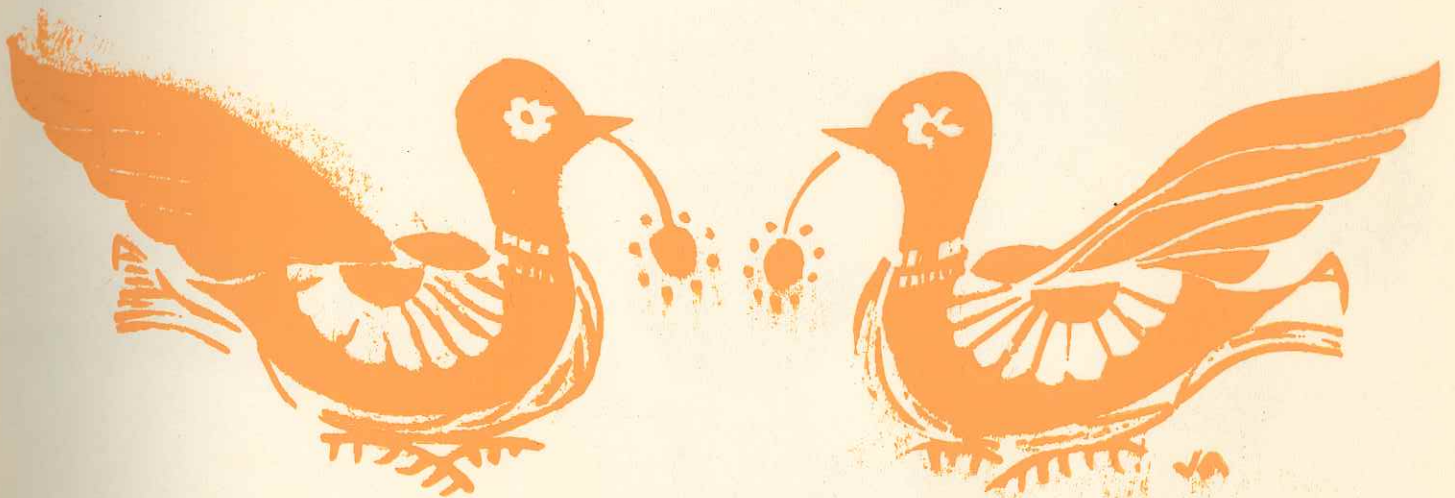
where the notes of the heavenly dove float upon the breezes.



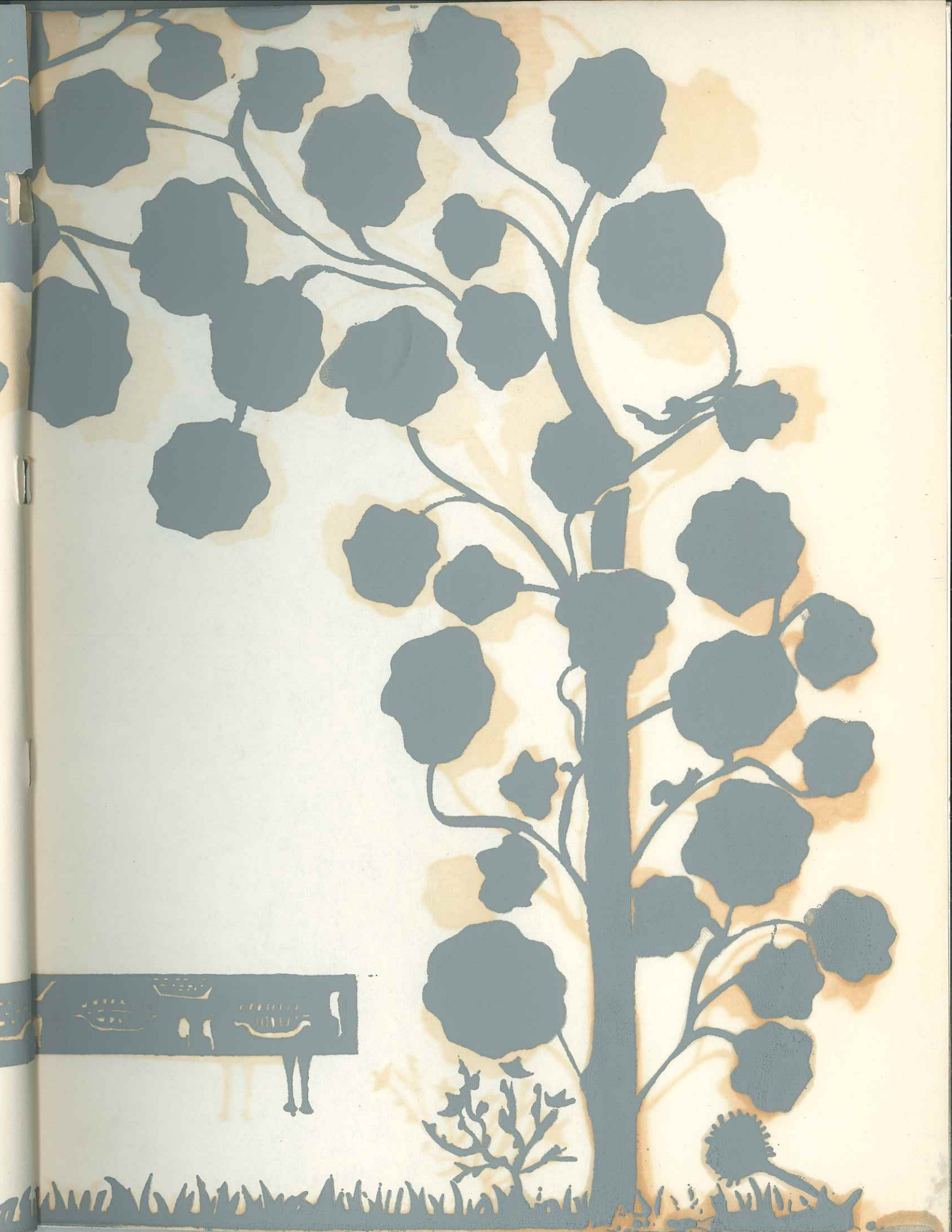
Where the lily pure and fair, sendeth forth sweet fragrance rare, and



voices filled with praise and pray'r resound through the valleys.







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