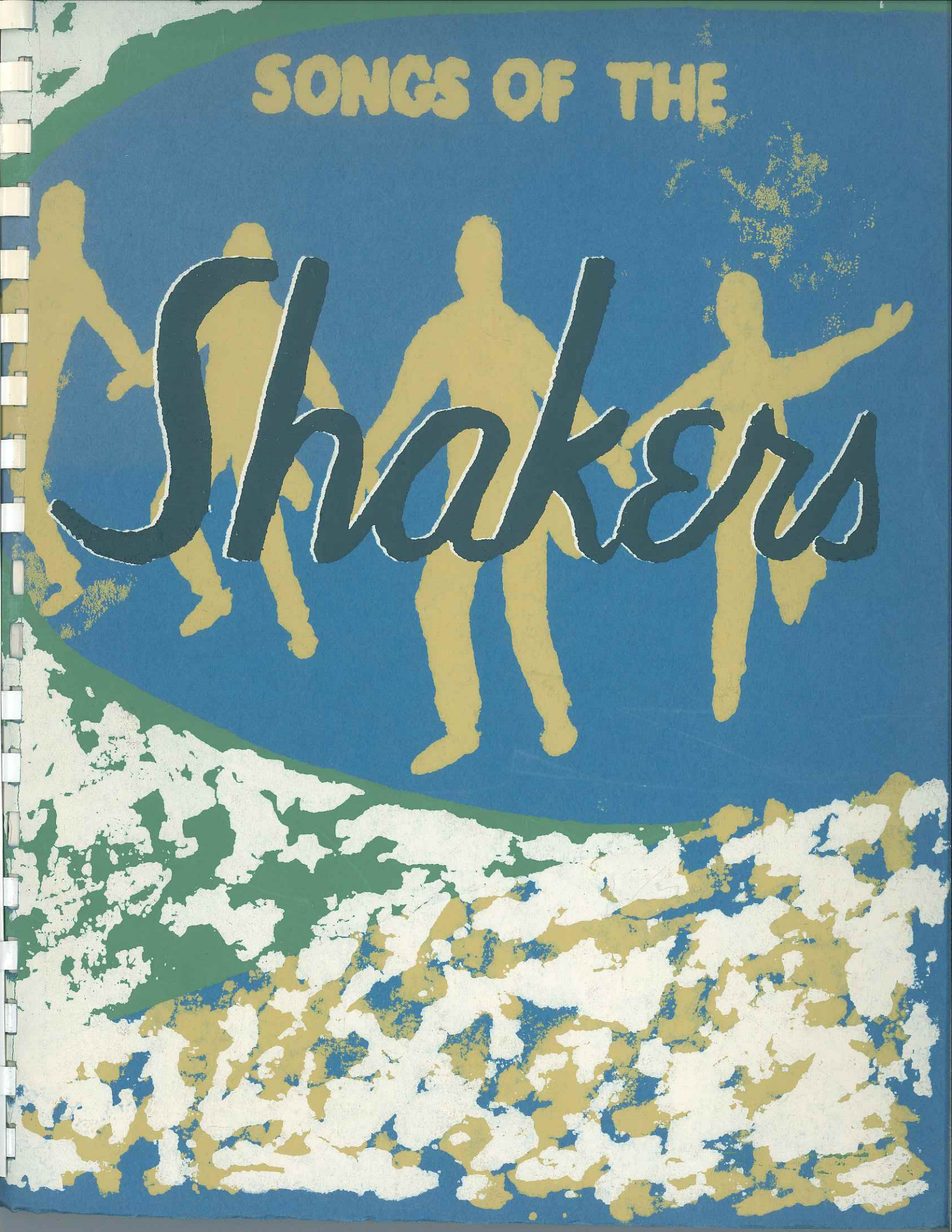


SONGS OF THE

# Shakers



13,043

(9773.1)

Songs of  
the

# SHAKERS

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SHAKER VILLAGE WORK GROUP publishes this book of songs in fulfilling its purpose to make known the culture and history of the Shaker people. Located at the Mt. Lebanon Shaker community, where many of the songs in this book had their origin, the project is now operated as a summer activity of teen-age boys and girls who desire enriching experiences in fruitful work, group living, and recreational interests. In its program, much inspiration is drawn from the integrity of work and craftsmanship which was fundamental to the Shaker folk culture.

For information concerning its teen-age project:

*Shaker Village Work Group*

Post Office Box 1119,  
Pittsfield, Mass.

## 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 its 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 art's sake. They started writing their songs, 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 their people to read music. Because of the importance of music in their religion, they wanted everyone to have the ability to join in singing. All of the songs in this book were transcribed by teenagers at Shaker Village from original Shaker manuscripts written in letteral notation. On page 6 is a reproduction of a page of one such book. Since their life was without worldly pleasures, they found great emotional release in their singing services. Except in the case of "Standing Songs" the singing was accompanied by movement ranging from calm to violent. Also included in the services were "gifts" in which believers would jump, hop, whirl or receive songs, some in "unknown" tongues. (See pages 9 and 37) The most violent of the "Gifts" was that of shaking, from which the sect got the name by which it is commonly known. Sensuous elements not found in their daily lives 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 the folk and classical secular music of that period, but the most fascinating of these songs were created in the heat of 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 supposedly many races and peoples.

Also included in the collection are hymns, songs for dancing and marching, songs of humility ("low") songs, and gestural songs.

The preparation and printing of this book was done at Shaker Village Work Group by four two week workshops of eight teenagers each, lead by one Staff Member, Gerald Marks, with one villager, William Epstein, acting as "specialist", staying with the workshop for the entire summer in order to gain experience in planning and leadership.

There is also available, in conjunction with this songbook, a ten inch long-playing record that has on one side fourteen Shaker songs by a chorus of Shaker Villagers. The other side includes an interview with Brother Ricardo Beldon, the second to last male Shaker to die. Brother Ricardo tells of life as a Shaker and of Shaker singing services, as he remembers them from his youth, and he sings one song. This is the only recording by a member of the Shakers that is now available to the general public. It can be ordered through Shaker Village Work Group.

I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon

3: 2:  $\bar{o}$   $\bar{c}$   $\bar{d}$   $\bar{e}$   $\bar{e}$   $\bar{o}$   $\bar{e}$   $\bar{e}$   $\bar{o}$   $\bar{e}$   $\bar{o}$   
the name of the Lord. I will walk before the

Lord in the land of the living. I will pay my

vows unto the Lord, now in the presence of all  
his people, in the courts of the Lord's house,

in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.

Consecration.

Here's my heart; to God I give it, Voice and tongue,

to praise his name. I have life; to him I live it, -

Hands, to him devote the same. I've a field, to

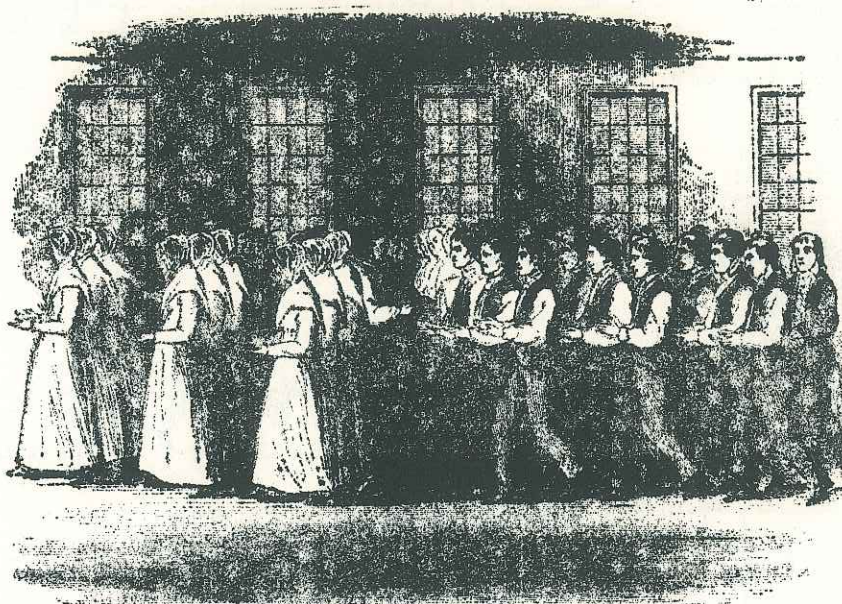
sow and reap it, And must reap what ever it

grows. I've a paradise; I'll keep it, For it

blossoms as the rose.

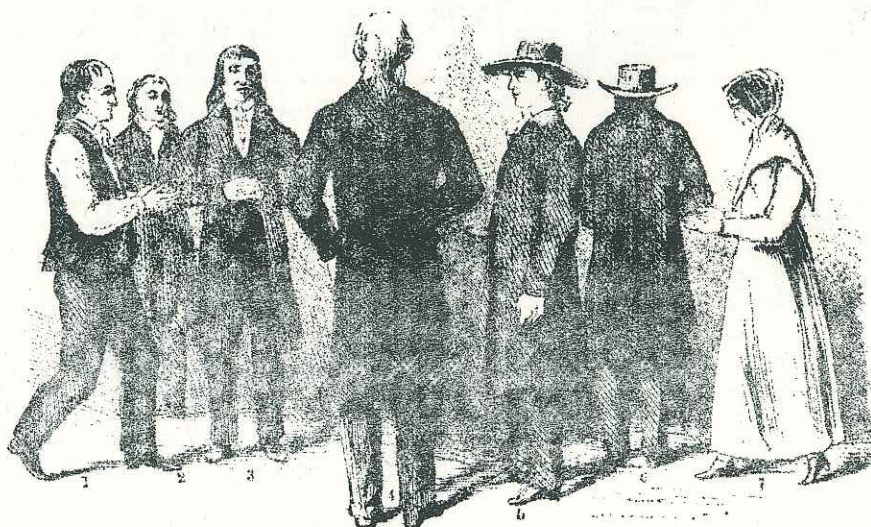
Above is a page from a Shaker Music Book showing two songs in letteral notation. To transcribe the song into modern notation bear in mind the following; 1.) the time signature is not 3/2, the 3 is a tempo indication and the 2 tells you that the basic pulse is in 2. 2.) the letters from A to G are written /vcdejo 3.) letters with nothing surrounding them are quarter notes, with one line over are eighth notes, with a dot after are dotted quarters, etc..





THE DANCE.

In the above cut, taken from an 1857 issue of Harper's New Monthly Magazine, one of the characteristic Shaker marching movements is referred to as dance.



SHAKER COSTUMES.

This cut shows the various costumes of the Shakers at home and abroad. Figures 1 and 7 show the worship costume of a man and woman; Figure 2, that of a field and shop laborer; Figure 3, an Elder; Figures 4 and 5, traveling costume; and Figure 6, a half-dress costume.

COME TO ZION

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 u-pon 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

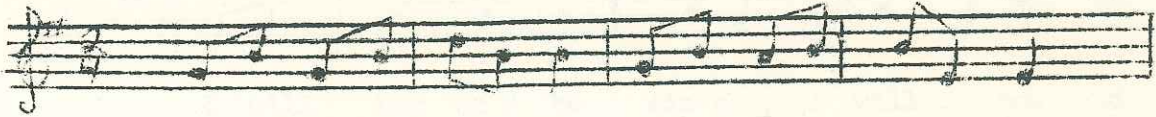
found. Come to healings found.

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

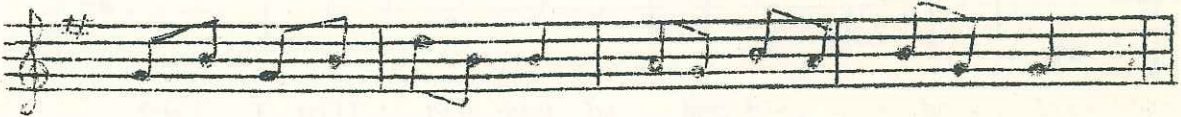
All who will may come & share the glories of this ju - bi - lee.

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

## INE VINE VIOLET



I-ne vi-ne vi-o-let E-ne se-ne vingo pret,



Y-fen wa-fen wane voo, O-le no-le nin-zy two.



Acren wacren wa-ny vo Mother's love is e-ven so.



Un-ne e-ne I-ne va, Now in love We'll dance & play.

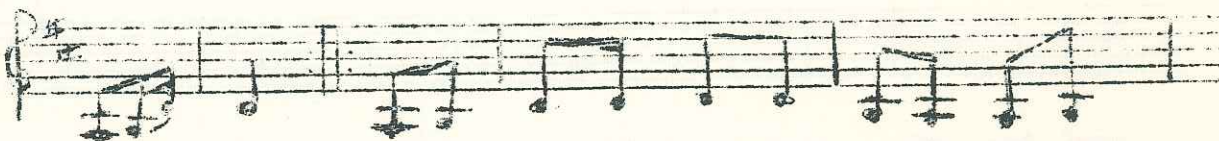
### I WILL BOW AND BE SIMPLE



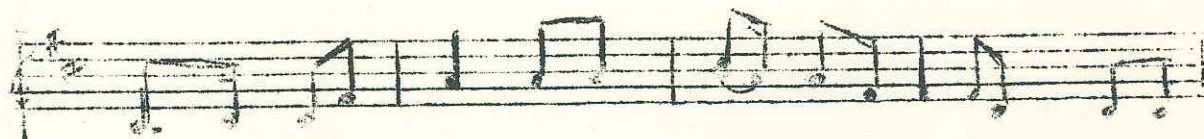
I will bow and be simple, I will bow and be



free, I will bow and be humble, yea bow like the



willow tree. I will bow this is the to-ken, I will

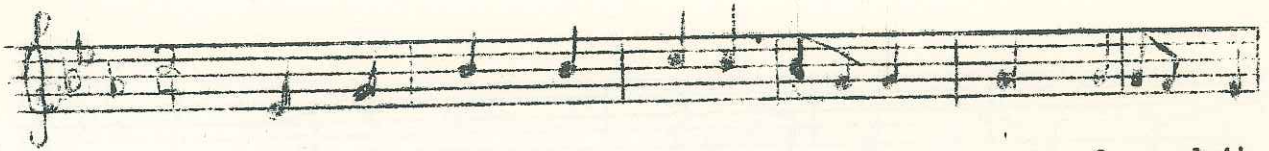


wear the easy yoke, I will bow and be broken, Yea I'll



fall up-on the rock.

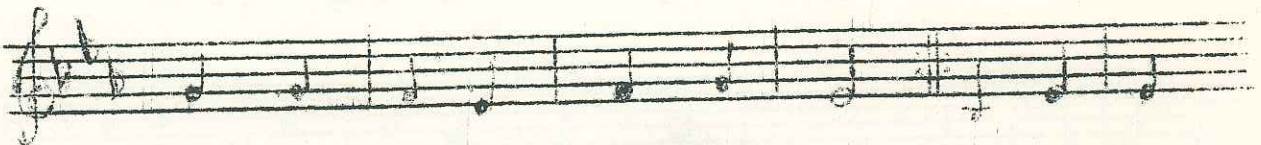
## SEND, O LORD, THY HOLY POWER



Send, O Lord, Thy Ho-ly pow-er, Send, O send it



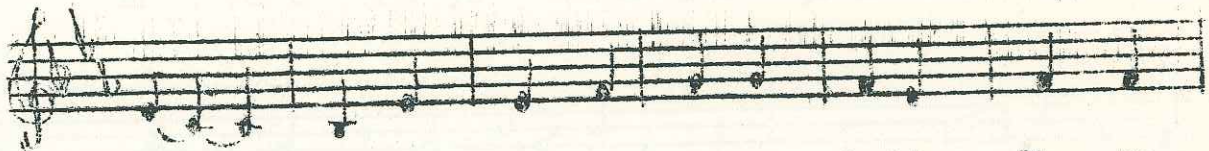
to my soul. Guard and keep me in each ho-ur,



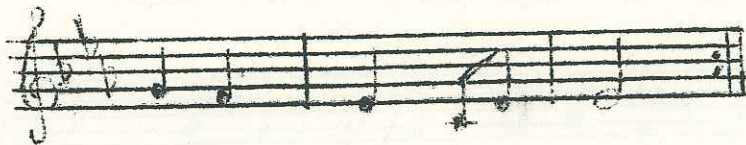
when tem p - ta-tions ro und Me roll. Bow and bend



my haug hty spi-rit; Bow me down be-fore Thy

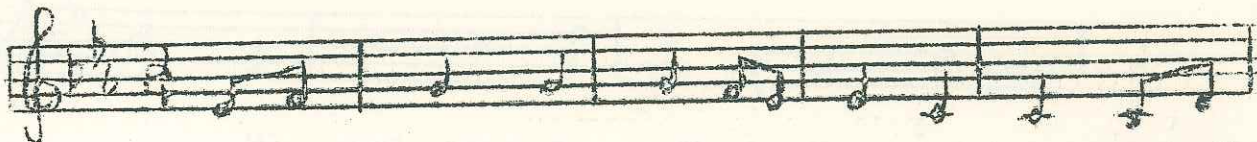


Throne: May my soul be tru-ly humble; Then my



offrings tho u wilt o wn.

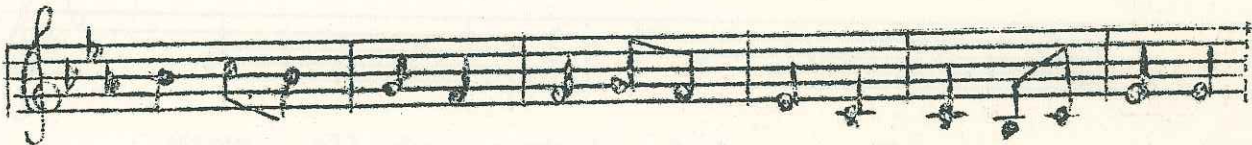
### I WILL PRAISE THE LORD



I will praise The Lord all the day long, it shall



be my morn' and eve-ning song, lu lu lu lu



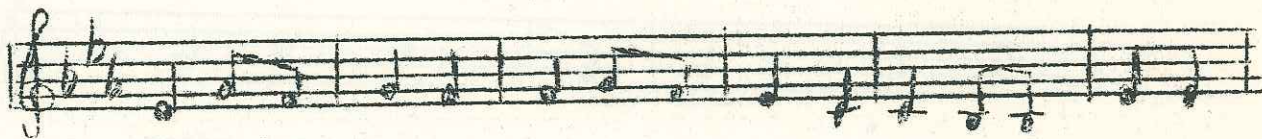
lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu



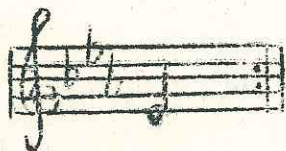
lu Come all ye Saints and praise The Lord! Pro-



claim the good-ness of his word! lu lu lu lu



lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu

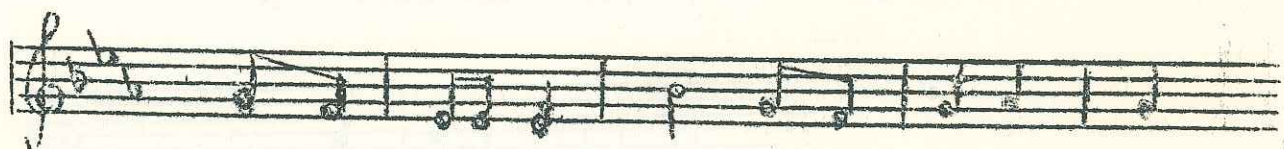


lu

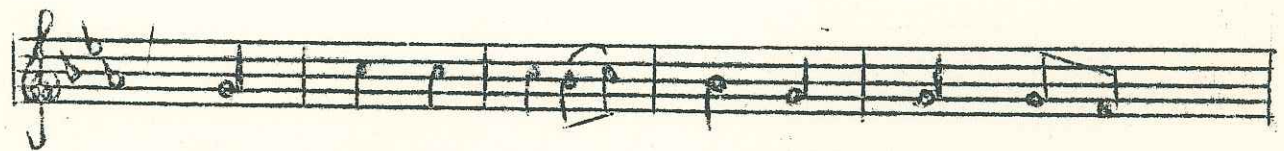
## MY SOUL LOVES TO WALK IN THE VALLEY



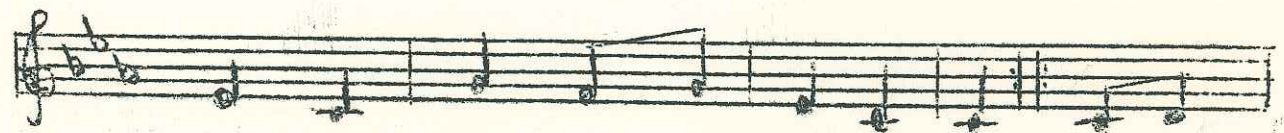
My soul loves to walk in the valley low,



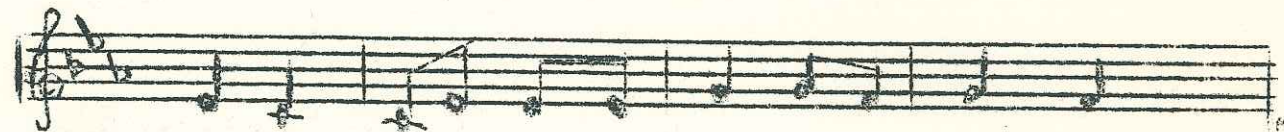
where the beautiful fruits of the Gos-pel grow;



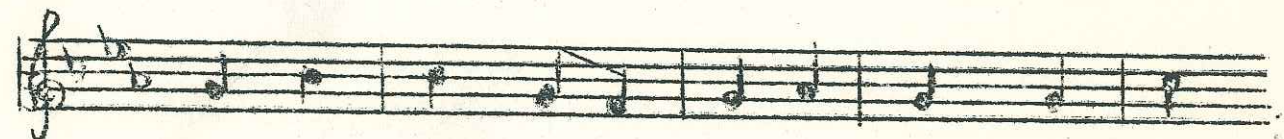
where all dis - cordant feel-ings flee, and a



still small voice reigns tri - um-phants - ly. This is



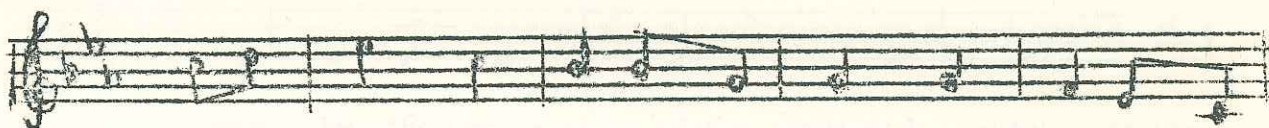
wis-dom's vale where is joy and de - light. Her



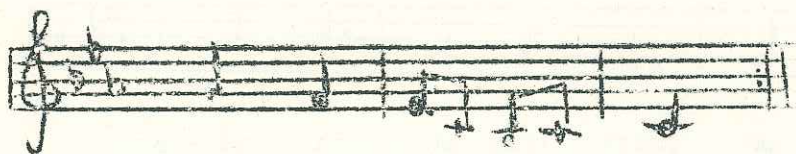
paths are pure, and her bur-dens light; and tho

(continued)

MY SOUL LOVES TO WALK IN THE VALLEY (cont.)



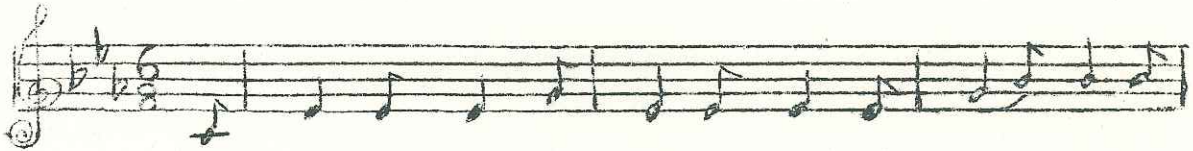
hea-vy winds and tem-pests as - sail, they can-not lay



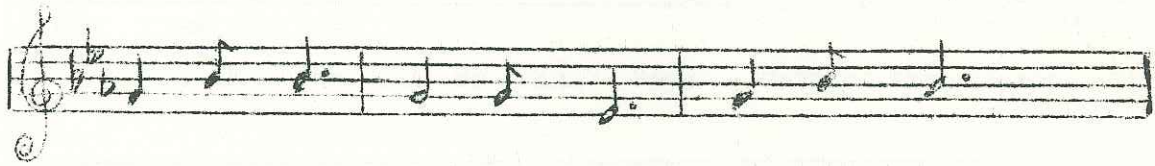
waste this beautiful vale.



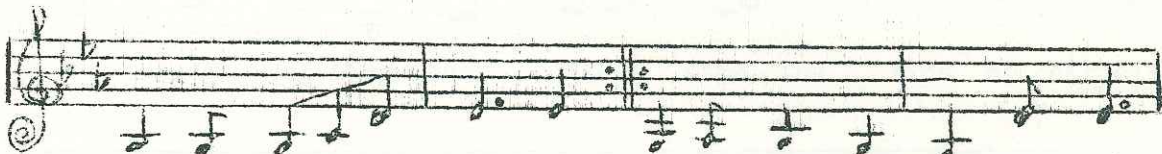
## MOVE BY THE SPIRIT



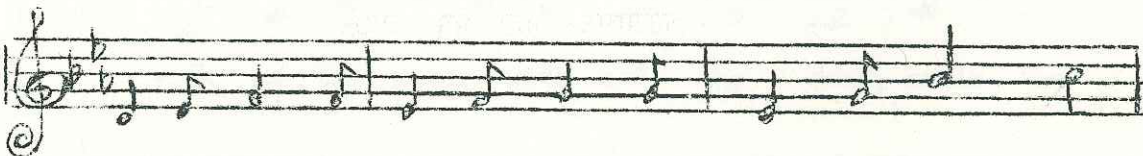
Move by the spi - it of the Lord and quicken by His



Ho - ly word, We will march, We will march,



To the heavenly Kingdom. Every step we take is new

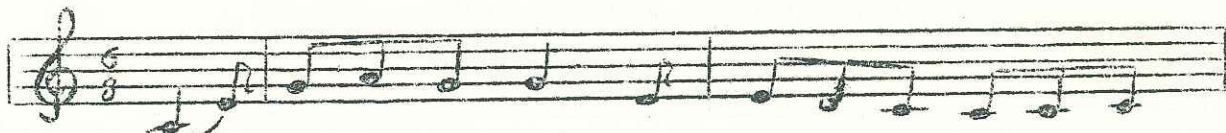


As in vic - try we pur - sue the nar - row path th at



leadeth to the bright Ce - les - tial Ci - ty.

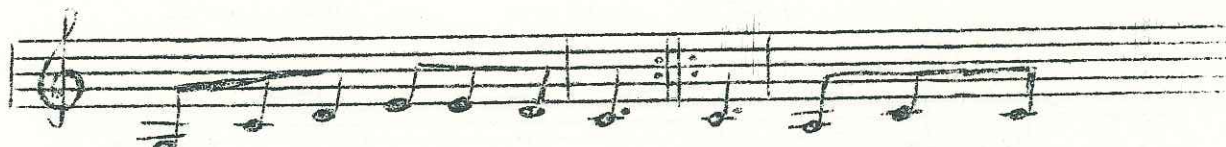
BE NOT AFRAID



O Who Will Be Mine? Says Mother Not fearing the



rough rol-ling sea. Who'll stem the tide of affliction and



walk on the water with me? My hand, saith the



Saviour shall guide you tis I.O Be not a-fraid.

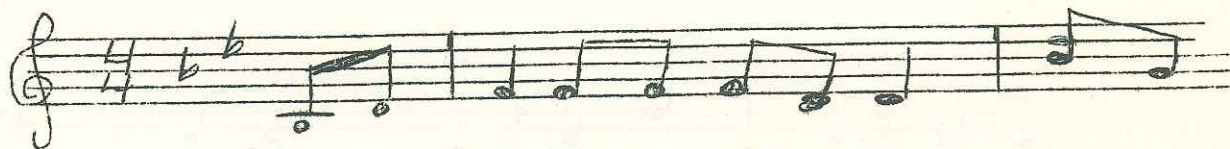


The flowers of Heaven be with you when called through



deep waters to wade.

## LET MY THANKFULNESS NEVER CEASE TO FLOW



Let my thank-ful-ness ne-ver, nay, ne-ver



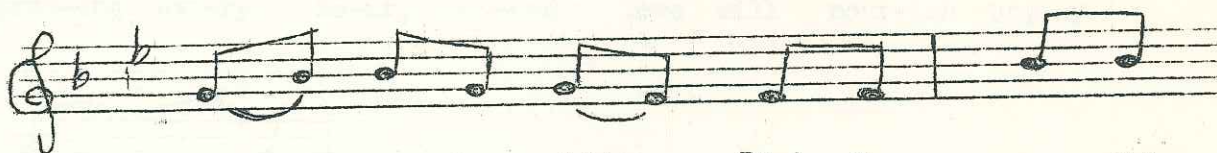
ce-ase to f|ow, For my pre-cious home in



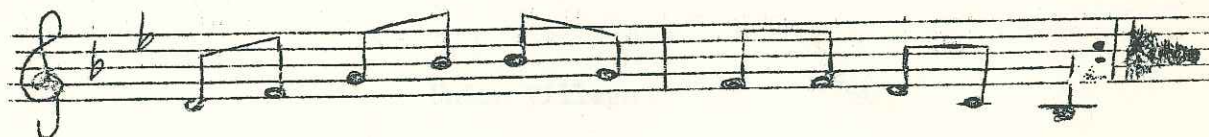
Zi-on, and my pre-cious call-ing too.



With my near and dear re-la-tion, I will



ev - er a- bide, Tho' I pass this

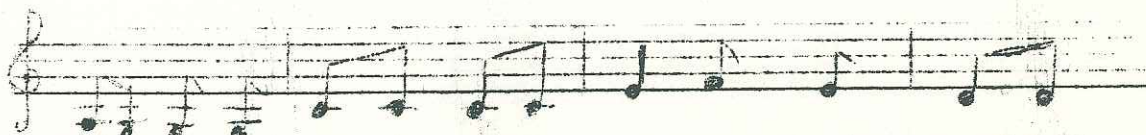


tri- bu- la- tion and on ev- ery hand I'm tried.

SEE THE FIELDS



See the fields, See the fields, grow-ing up with



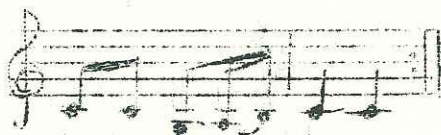
flow-ers, By keep-ing ev-ery weed down, They're nourished



by the show-ers. Keep to work, Keep to work, Im-



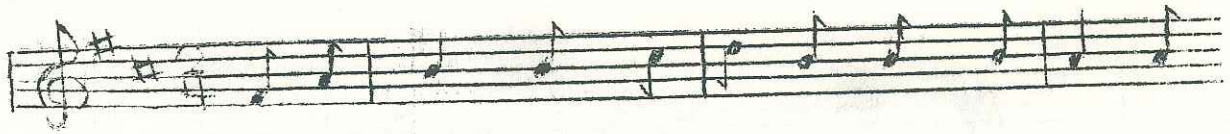
prov-ing eve-ry ho-ur, Moth-ers love will nour-ish us, By



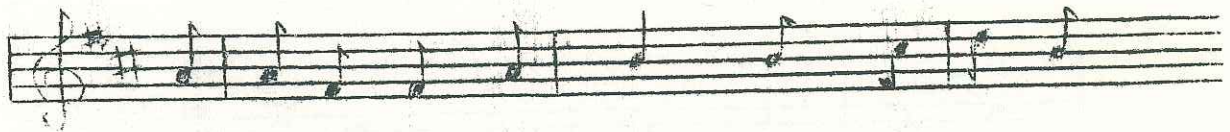
giv-ing us the pow-er.

Union Village

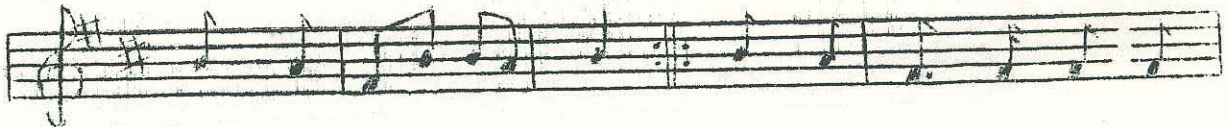
## LIVING SOULS, LET'S BE MARCHING



Living souls let's be marching on our journey



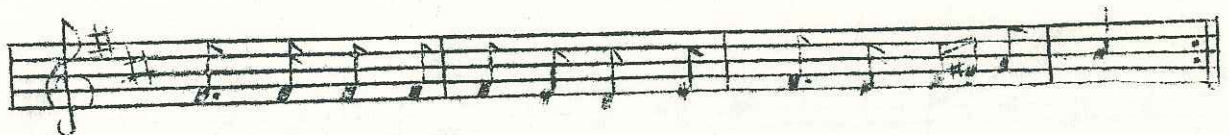
to heaven with our lamps trimmed and burning



with the oil of truth. let us join the heavenly

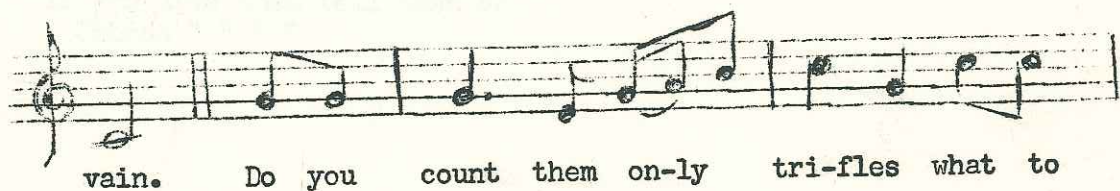
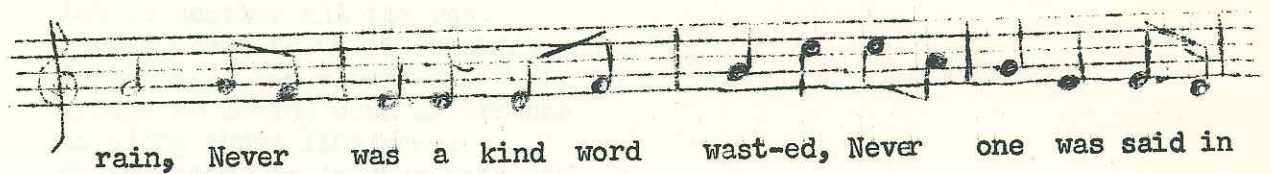
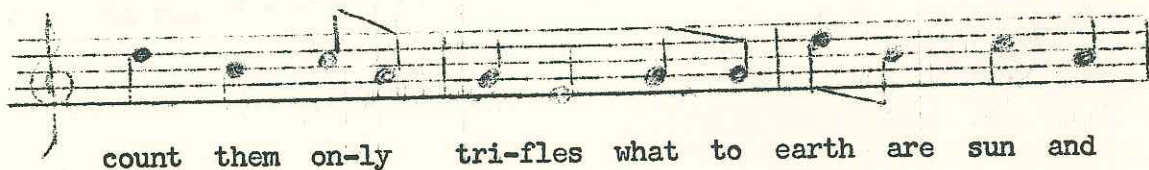


chorus and unite with our parents they will

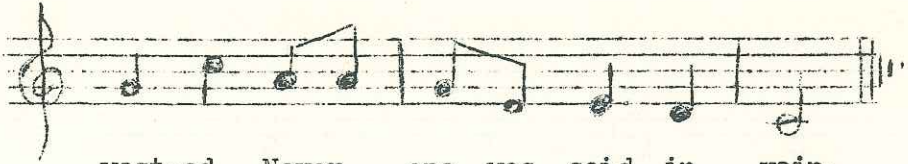


lead us on to Glo-ry in the path of righteousness.

## LOVING WORDS



## LOVING WORDS (cont.)



wast-ed, Never one was said in vain.

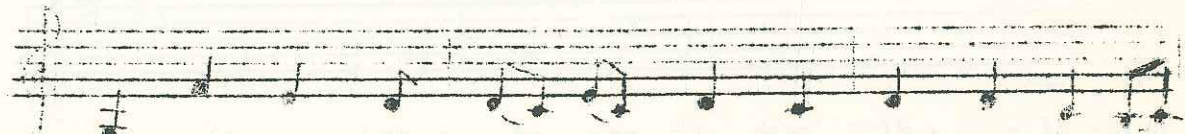
When the cares of Life are many  
 And its burdens heavy grow  
 For the ones who walk beside You  
 If You love them tell them so  
 What You count of little value  
 Has an almost magic Power  
 And beneath their cheering sunshine  
 Hearts will blossom like a flower  
 Chorus " " " "

So as up Life's hill we journey  
 Let us scatter all the way  
 Kindly words to be as sunshine  
 In the dark and cloudy day  
 Grudge no loving word my brother  
 As along thro' life you go  
 To the ones who journey with you  
 If you love them tell them so  
 Chorus " " " "

## COMPOSED ON THE 45th PSALM



The pro - phet saw in vi - sion clear. By



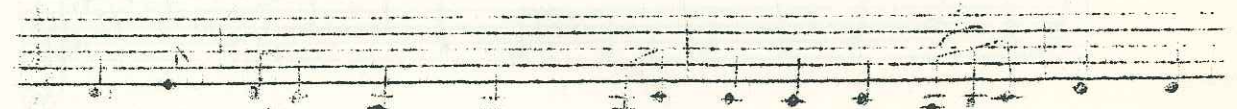
whom sal - va - tion would ap - pear And Da - vid with in -



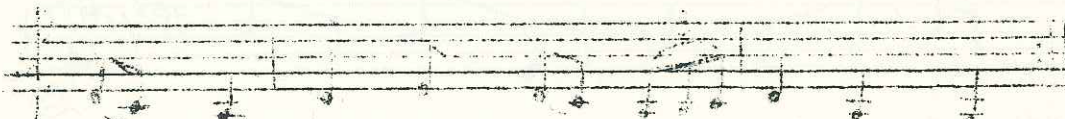
spir - ed tongue. Des - cribes a hap - py vir - gin throug



And one more fair than all the rest. In rai - ment



of the fin - est dressed. With - out a wrin - kle, blot, or



stain. To hea - ven's choice for Zi - on's Queen



## SHEPHERDESS SONG

How beau - ti - ful are those, and how

bless - ed they be, who in deep trib - u - la - tion

dai - ly fol - low me. I have a robe di-

vine - ly fair for such child - ren to wear,

and a crown shin - ing bright they shall wear

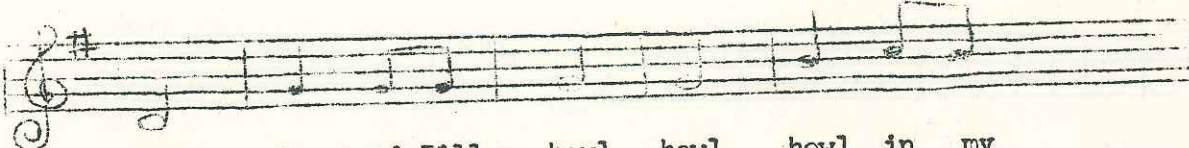
with de - light when done with the fad - ing

things of time.

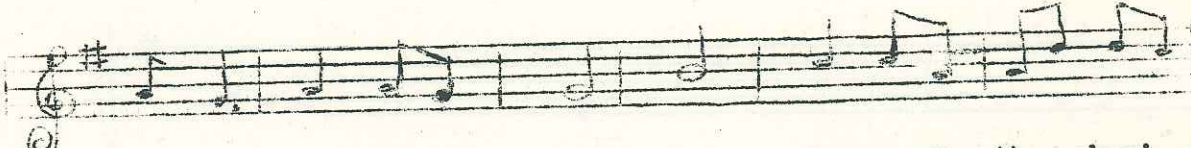
THE VOICE OF GOD



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 -



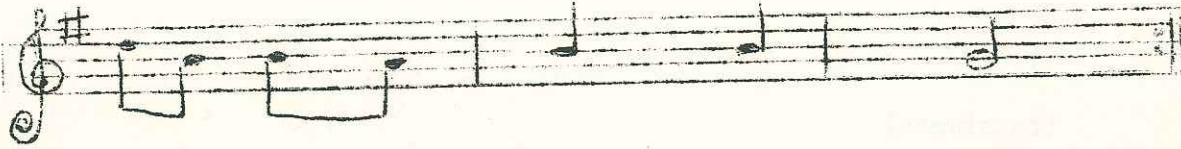
na - tion that rests in my Zi - on. And I will



send forth a curse curse curse. Yea I will

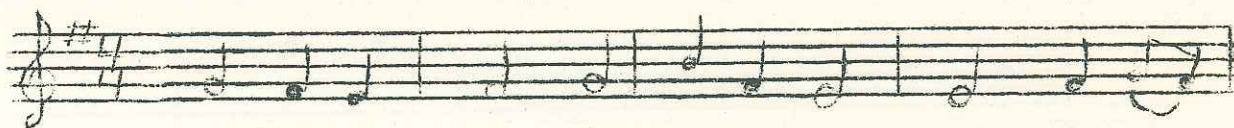


send forth a hea - vy curse up - on the in -

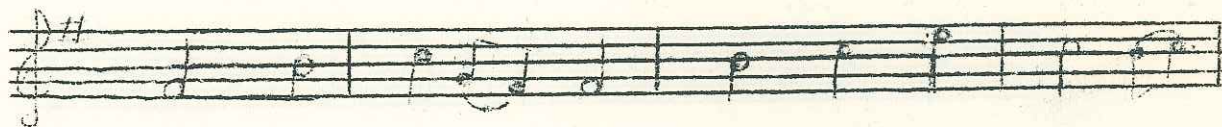


ha - bi - tants that dwell in her.

## FUNERAL HYMN



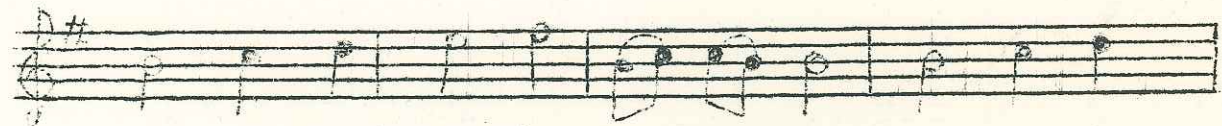
Our brother's gone, He is no more; He's quit our



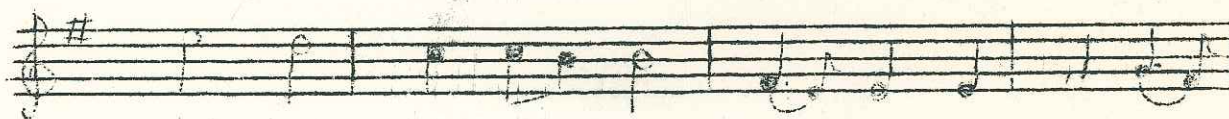
coast He's left our shore. He's hurst the bonds of



mortal clay. The spirit's fled and sears a-way.



We now may hear the so-lemn call: "Be ye pre-



pared both great and small;" The call ex- cludes no



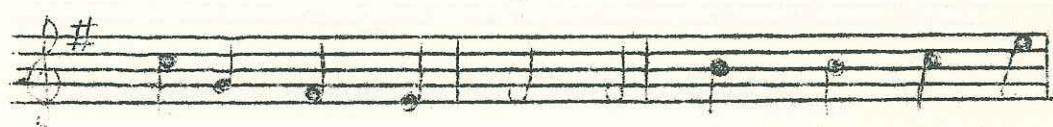
sex nor age, For all must quit this mortal stage.

(continued)

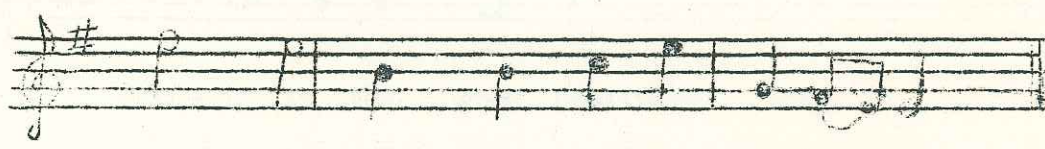
FUNERAL HYMN (cont.)



Then let the righteous sing, When from cor-

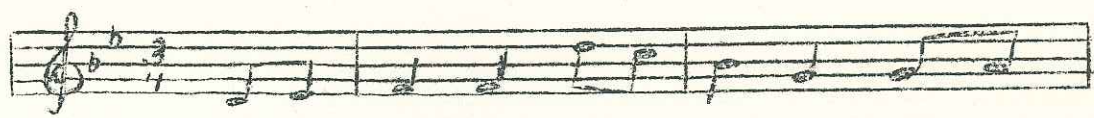


ruption they get free: O death where is thy



sting? O grave where is thy victory?

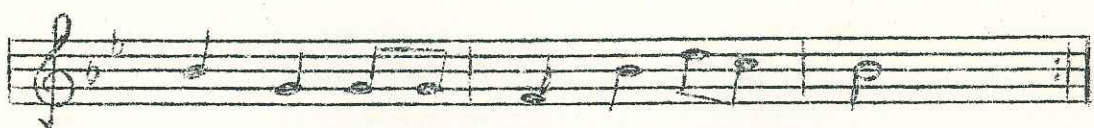
EVER CHANGING, EVER AIMING



Ev-er changing, ev-er aim-ing toward the



high-er bet-ter life: Ever learn-ing, ev-er



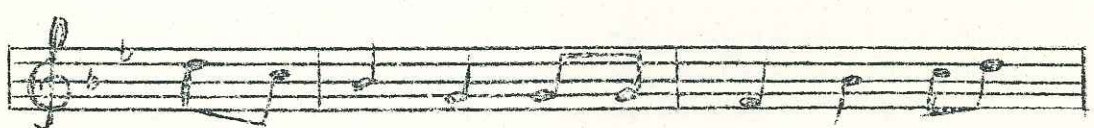
earn-ing is the good be-livers try.



Light Un- folding, Spirit Moulding, is the



law of endless growth: Feeding thought and

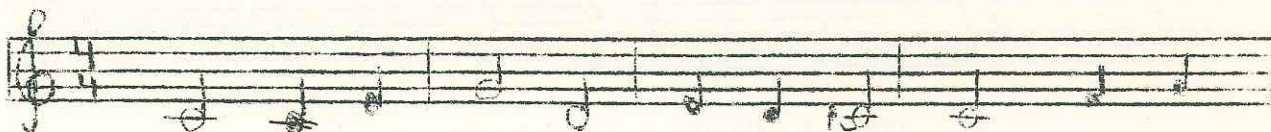


word & act-ion, from The Wells of Boundless



truth.

## THE BELIEVERS' FAREWELL



Now from our breth-ren and our sis - ters, God has  
We have to cross the Al - le - ga - ny, A moun- tain



call-ed us to go, over the hills and over moun-  
high and tedious foe; And now good an - gels will pro- tect



tains, In-to the state of O-hi-o.  
us. That we may safe - ly tra-vel thru.

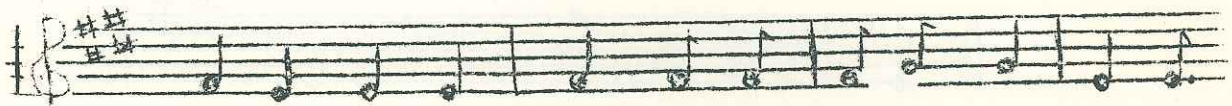
2. And now in parting with our Mother, the tears of love flow from our eyes;  
And parting with our loving brethren, to Heav'n we raise our mourn-  
ful cries.  
And now our Mother speaks most loving, O my children weep no more;  
Since God, in Christ our blessed savior, Has opened an effectual door.
  
3. And now we go in joy and comfort, Trusting in the Lord alone,  
Till we arrive unto our brethren, Who to Ohio now are gone.  
And now our blessed loving brethren, Do pray for us, while on the way;  
That the almighty Lord of Glory, May us protect by night and day.

Learned at this place, in or about the year 1808; composed by  
some of the company of Brethren and sisters who went from New  
Lebanon(N.Y.) to Ohio A.D. 1806.

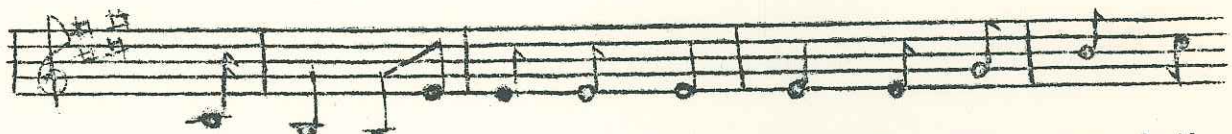
LOOK UP THROUGH THE CLOUDS



Look up thro' the clouds to the sunlight of



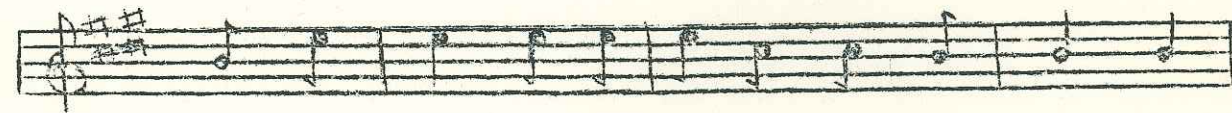
heaven, For the wheels of pro-gression are moving



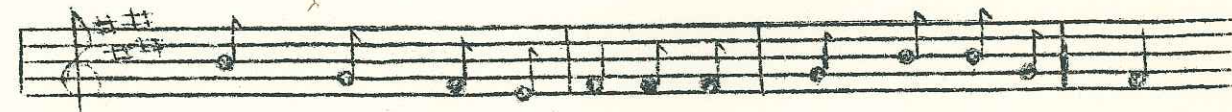
to-day; Look up, and fear not, for the sun hath



a-risen, and the shadows are passing a-way



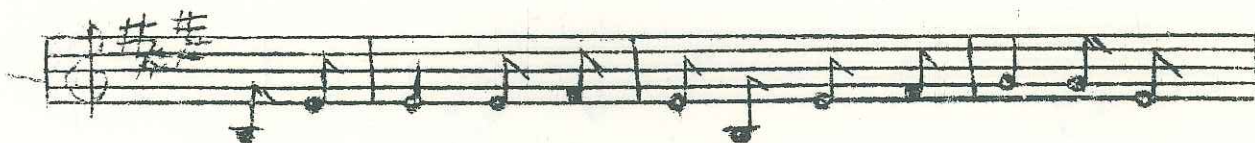
Let your heart be en-couraged and your hands be



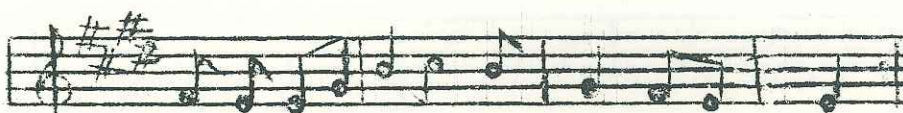
strengthened for Je-hovah is with us of a truth;

(continued)

LOOK UP THROUGH THE CLOUDS (cont.)



He is guarding His temple from the powers of



evil, O Zion of God upon earth.



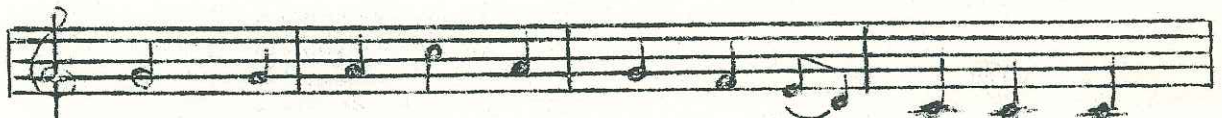
## MOTHER ANN'S CLOSET



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-



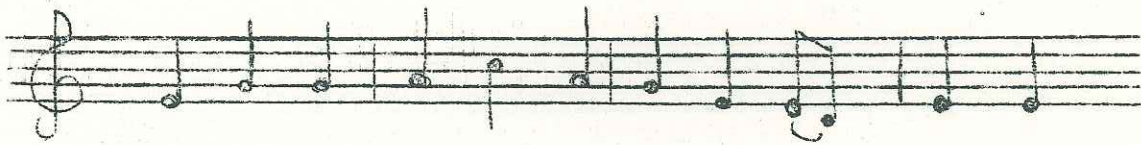
peat-ed but now it comes home, its im- pres-sions are

(continued)

MOTHER ANN'S CDDSET (CON'T)



Mine, A dread-ful im- pris-on-ment tho' it de-

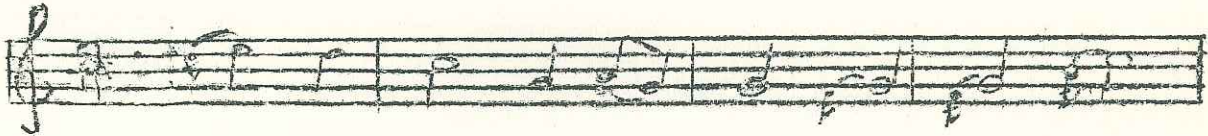


feat-ed the pur-pose of men in their bar-barous

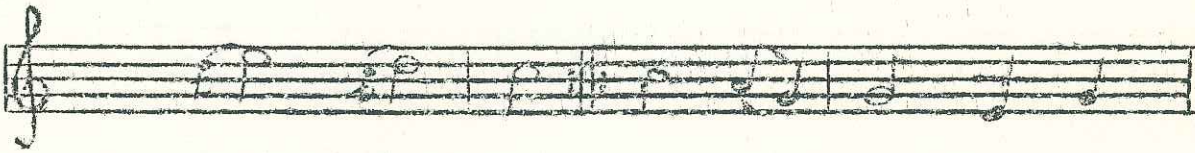


de- sign.

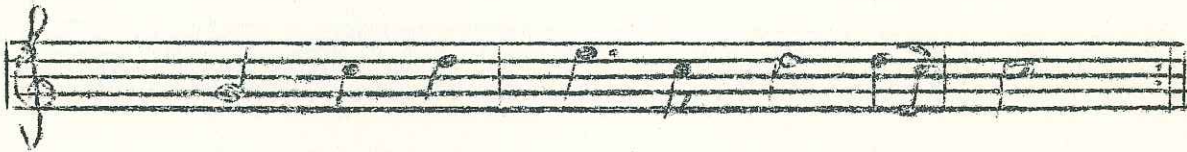
### SCOUR AND SCRUB



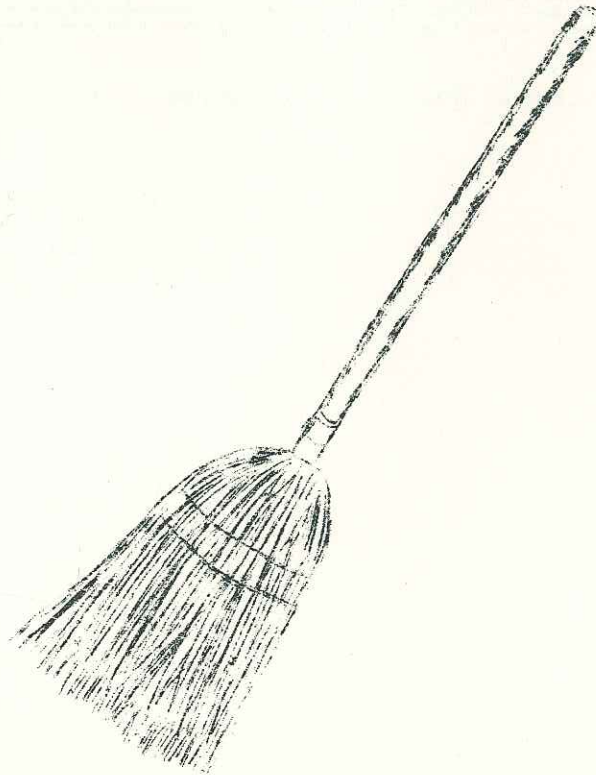
Bow down low, bow down low, wash, wash, clean,



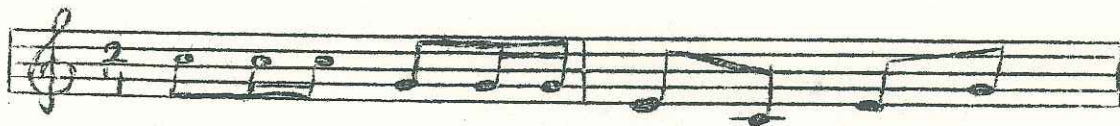
clean, clean, clean. Scour and scrub, scour &



scrub From This Floor The Stains of sin.



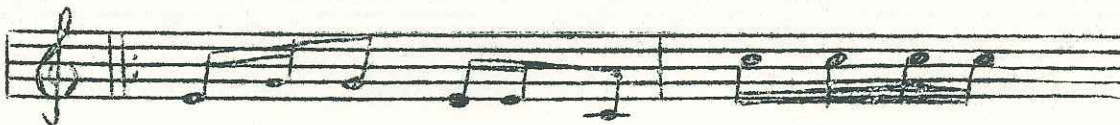
HOP UP AND JUMP UP



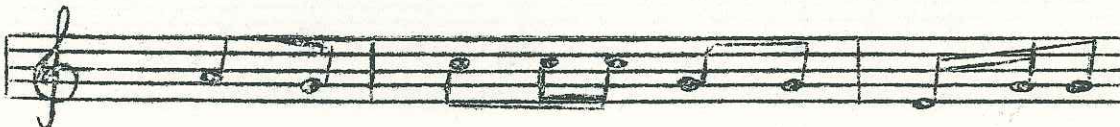
Hop up & Jump up & whirl Round whirl Round



Gather Love, here it is all Round All Round



Here is Love Flowing round catch it as you

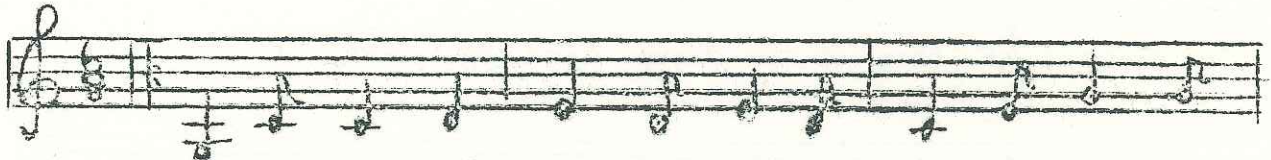


whirl round Reach up & Reach Down, Here It is

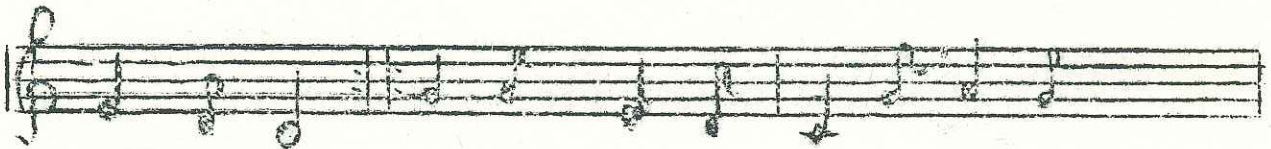


All round.

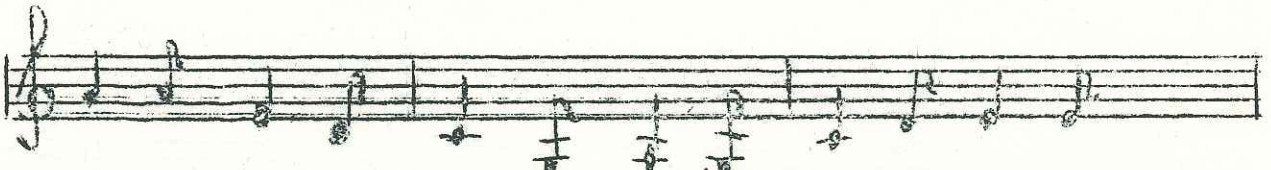
## NEW YEARS GREETINGS



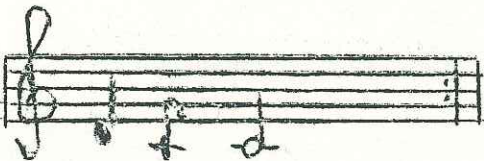
List-en while we join with ang-els, who in love have



gather-ed here. And we'll tell you of the morn-ing



of the glor-ious day that's dawn-ing, of the new and



com-ing year.

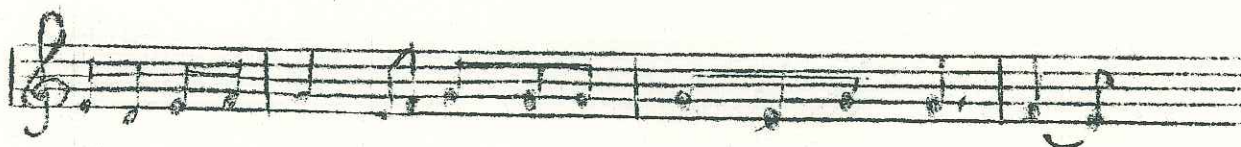
2. Clean shall be our future pages  
 Stamped upon our memories clear  
 Free from sin and void of sadness  
 Fraught with joy and full of gladness  
 Record of the coming year.

3. And we'll touch the muse to waken  
 Those who are to us so dear  
 Wishing all a happy morning  
 Happy weeks and months are dawning  
 And with all a happy year.

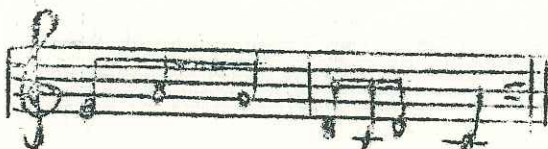
THE FIELD OF LABOR



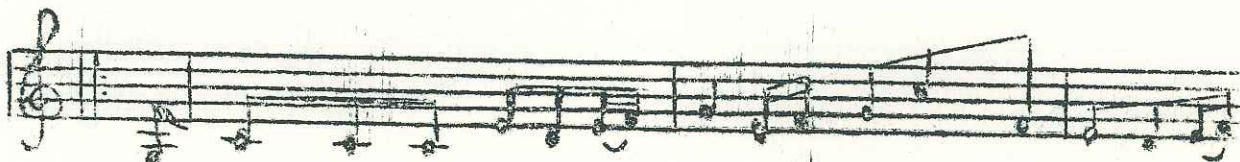
O the privi-lege how great to do good The field of



labor how wide! Arise O my Soul in thy might plant



goodness on every side



And though tis but little I do that little I'll do with de-



light well knowing that small drops at length form the ocean of

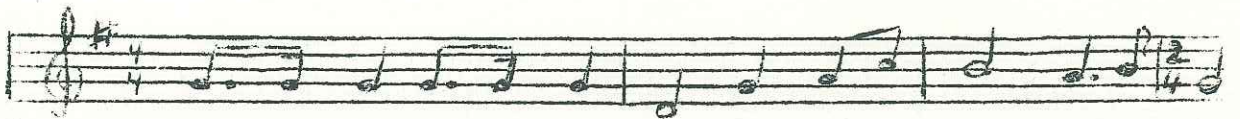


power and night.

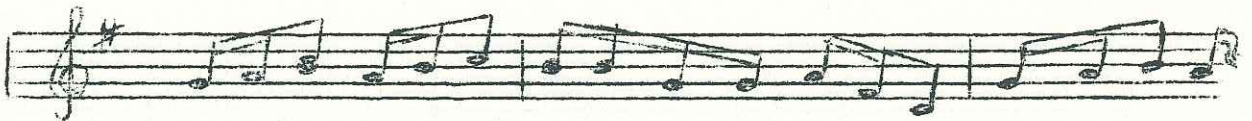
## FROM THE MOON



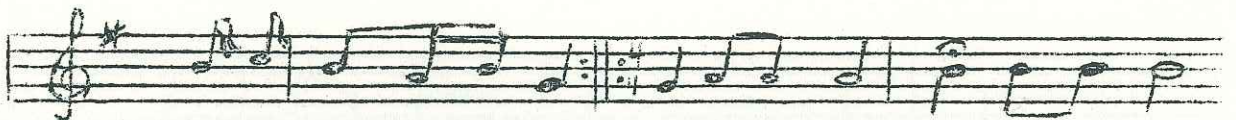
Se - le - i as - ka - na va, ves - e - ven ve - ne vi,



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



Ve-se-fa ve-ne-fa ve-ne fen ne fenne sty va- se fa va .



se-va veen fen-ne fi O, ho ho ho! Oh, ho ho ho!

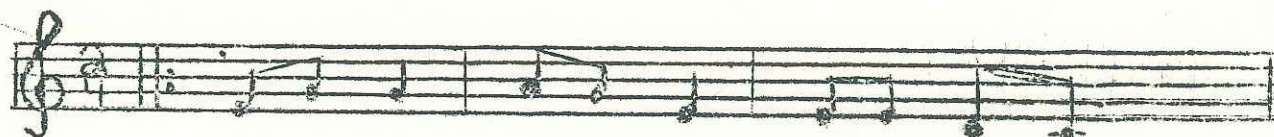


Haw ew oh hoo hoo, aw ew aw hoo hoo Aw ew aw, ew-ew oh,

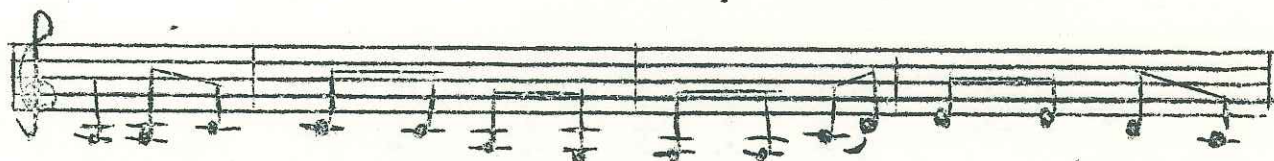


ho-a oh-a oh-a ho, Aw ew aw, ew oh oh, ho oh-a oo.

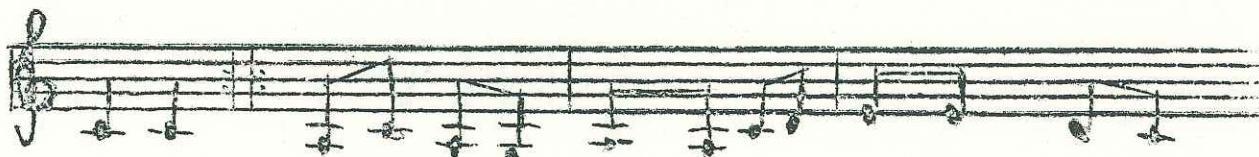
### GATHER LOVE



Gath-er love, gath-er love, gath-er heav-en-ly



Union it will sup-port you on your way Thru this vale of



sor-row. Gath-er in a rich sup-ply of this heav-en-ly



trea-sure. Un-to you it ful-ly flows, come fill your

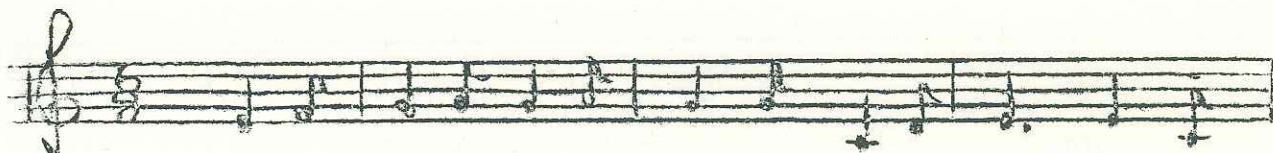


lit-tle meas-ure.

Composed at Pleasant Hill, N.Y.  
Feb. 3, 1855.



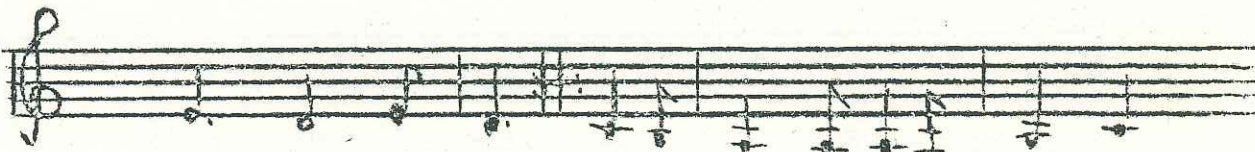
I AM LAYING UP MY TREASURE



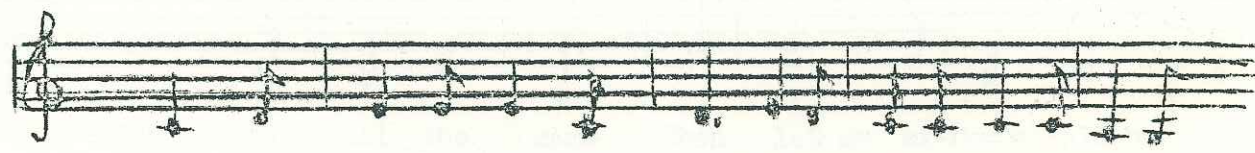
I am laying up my treasure, In a bright heavenly



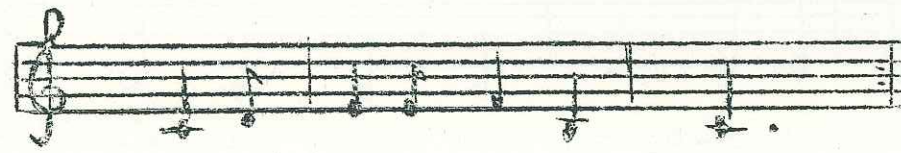
home, Joy and peace crown my labor, While the



truth bears me on My re - ward is ever with me,



For the law of growth is sure, Ever Sowing to the spirit,



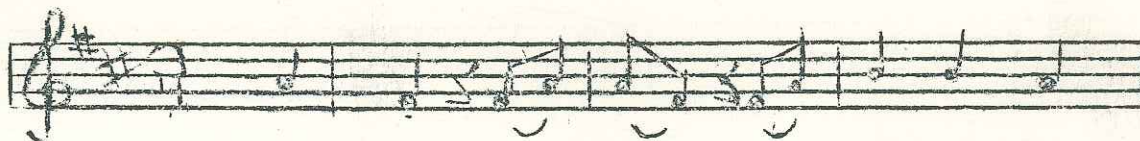
Will e - ternal life se - cure.

Canterbury N.H.

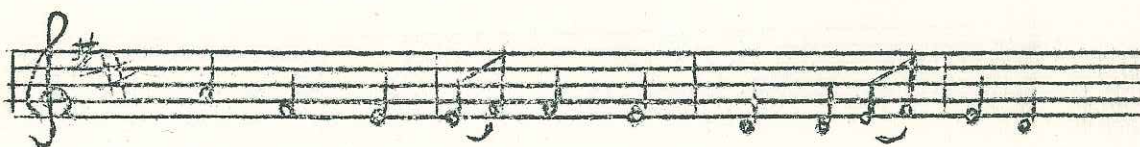
## I AM LOVED AS I LOVE

I am loved as I love I am blest as I bless. No  
more or less will be giv-en to me. The measure I  
meet will be mea-sured a-gain. For Jus - tice is a  
law un-to all the same Then let my ef-forts all be to  
love and bless. And strength-en the good in ev'ry  
one. Where - ev-er I am called What ever I can  
do shall be spent in the cause of the good and true.

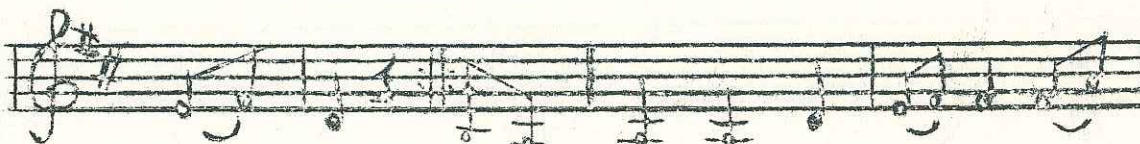
MORE LOVE



More love, more love; The heav-ens are



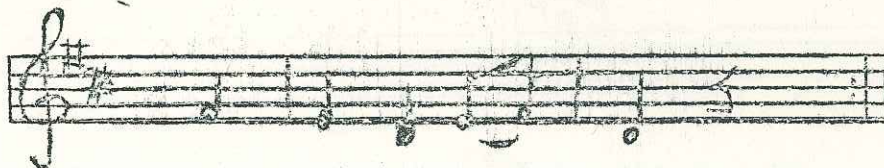
blessing the an-gels are call-ing O Zion,



more love. If ye love not each ot-her in

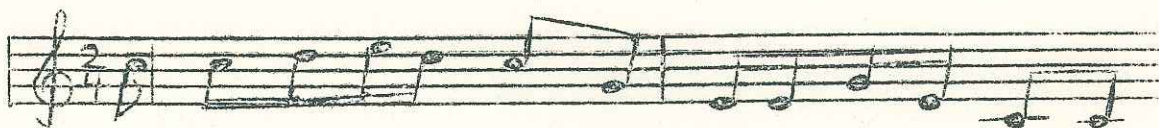


daily com-mun-ion, How can ye love God,

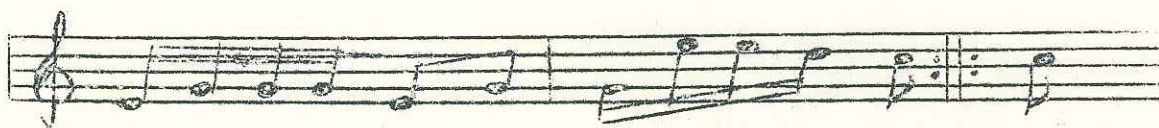


whom ye have not seen.

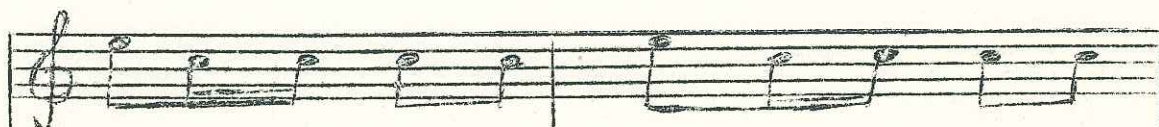
### I HAVE A LITTLE DRUM



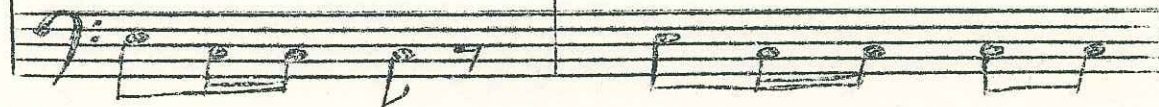
I have a little drum that Mother gave to me, the



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

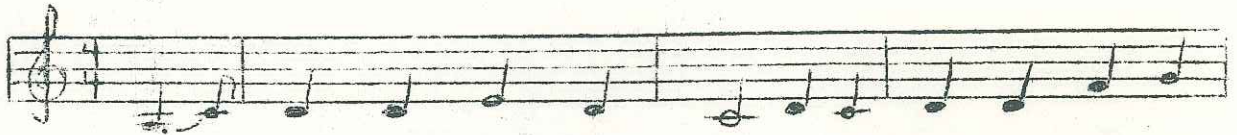


call vol-un-teers to fight sin a-way.



Rum ta ta tum tum Rum ta ta tum.

## MOTHER



Let names and sects and parties Ac - cest my ears no



more; My ev - er bless - ed Mo - ther For - ever I'll a - dore.



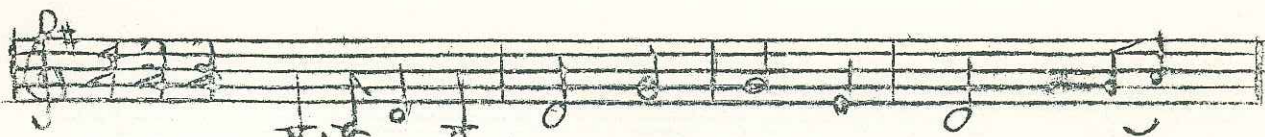
Ap - pointed by kind heaven, My Savior to re - veal, Her



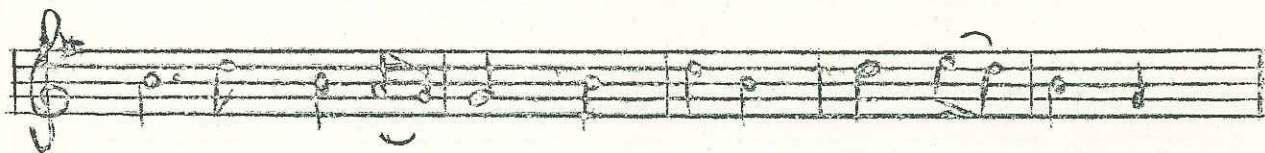
doc - trine is con - fir - med with an e - ter - nal seal.

The tune by Joel Turner,  
New Lebanon.

## A PRAYER



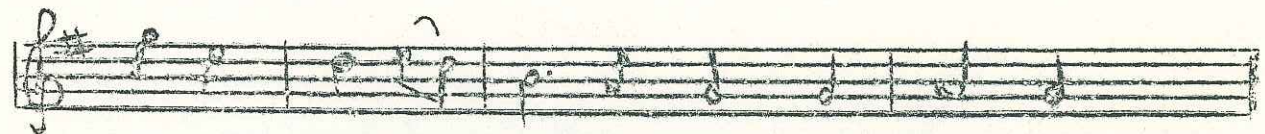
Grant me, O Lord, my fer-vent prayer As



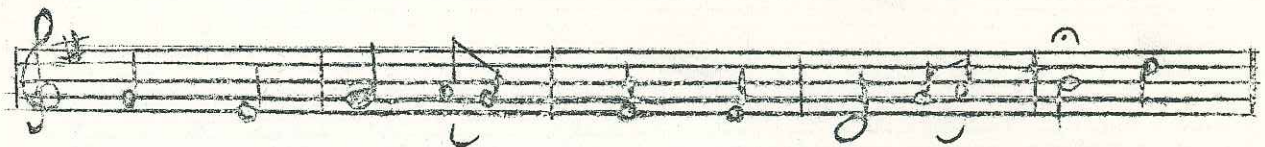
at Thy feet I bow: With wisdom pow'r and Heav'nly



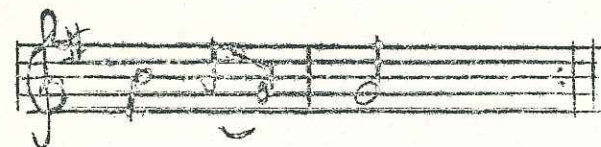
love O do my soul En----- dow. In Ev'ry tri all



then ap - pear be - fore me spread Thy light, My

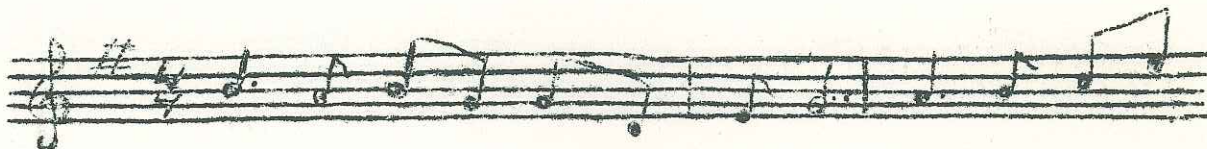


hands and feet My--- tongue, my heart O-- God do



guide a right.

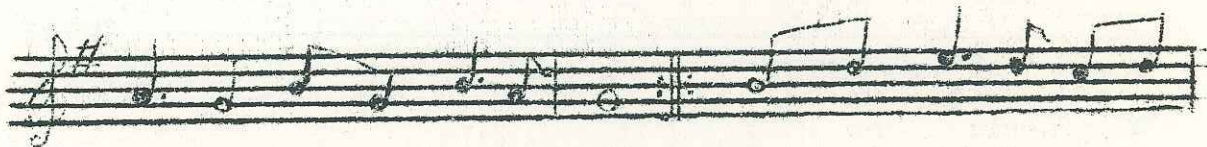
## HARK THE BELLS



Hark the mer-ry bells are ringing while we tar-ry



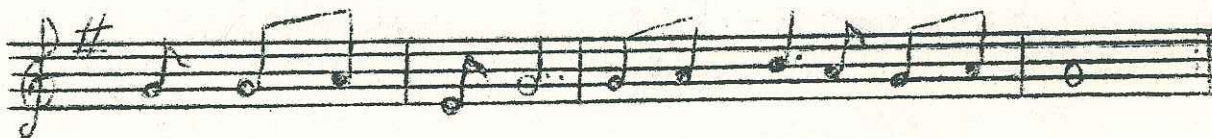
here be- low. Hear the little bells are ring-ing,



ring-ing, ringing, ever more. They are call-ing us to-



gether into union and sweet love. We're to love



and help each oth-er as the angels do ab- ove.

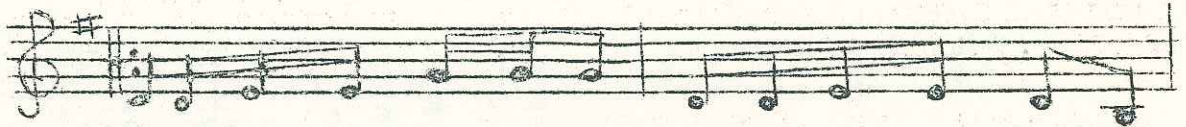
DRINK YE OF MOTHERS WINE



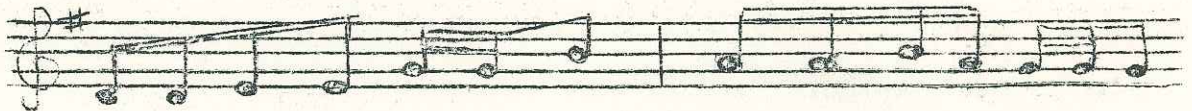
Drink ye of mothers wine, drink, drink, drink yd freely



Drink ye of mothers wine; It will make you limber.



If it makes you reel around, If it makes you fall down.

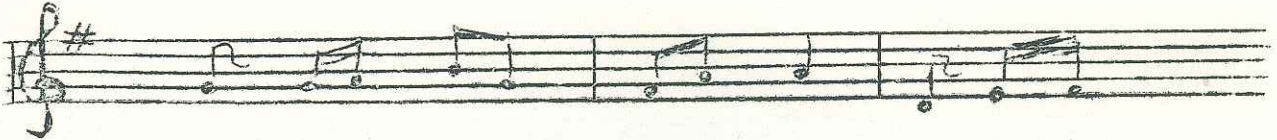


If it lays you on the floor; rise and take a little more.

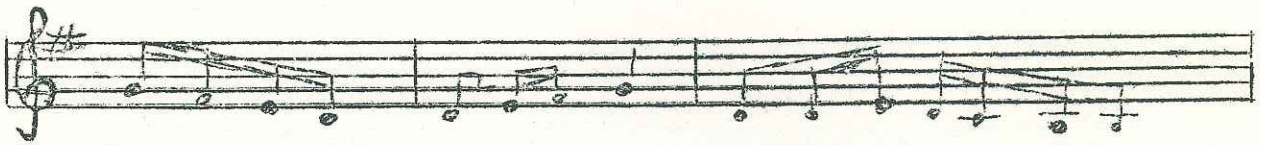
S. Union.



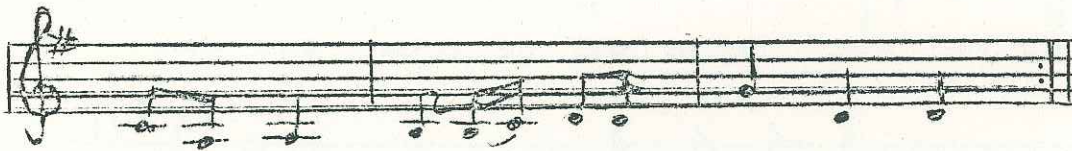
COME, LITTLE CHILDREN



Come, little children, gather round: I want to



play a little: I'm not bound O what a pretty little



cheering way! Little children skip and play.

Learned of one of the  
eastern societies, in  
1827

## LOVE



It is love that makes the way easy O it is



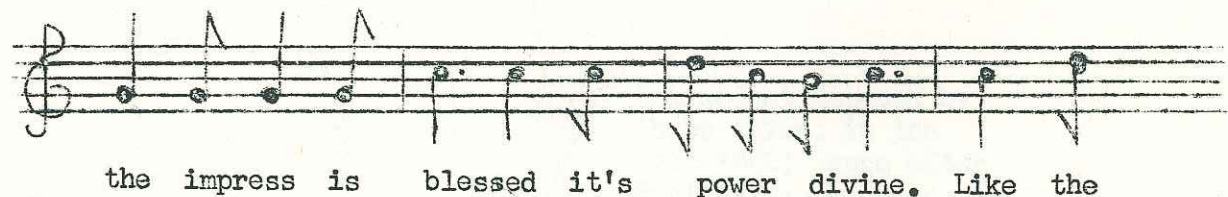
love that makes our path bright Pure love which



formth our heaven Is the essence of heavenly light



It is to the wounded a balm which is soothing



the impress is blessed it's power divine. Like the

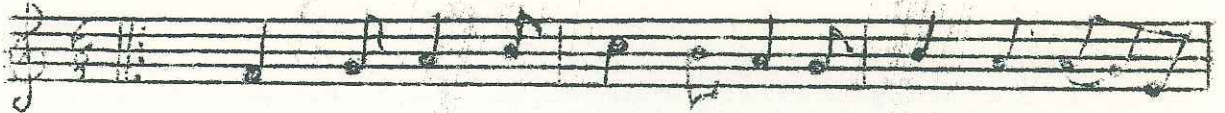


light of the sun it re-storeth the morning when in

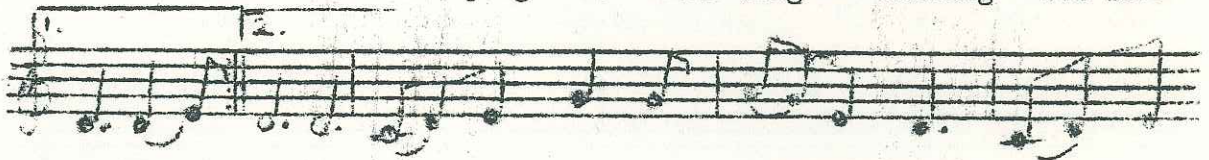


daekness is shadowed the mind.

## THE MIDNIGHT CRY



When the midnight cry begins O what a conster-  
Thou- sands sleeping in their sing A- waiting for sal-



nation!  
vation lo, the bridegroom is at hand; Who will



kindly treat him? Surely all the waiting band will




now go forth to meet him.

Learned at Hancock by  
Abner Allen, in the  
year 1806; soon after  
Brother J. Meachams return  
from Ohio.


## THE LAMB'S REVELATION



In the lamb's first re-ve-la-tion tho he sought from  
He could find no ha-bi-ta-tion; No a- bi- ding



East to West. Fa-ther of the new cre-a-tion,  
place of rest.

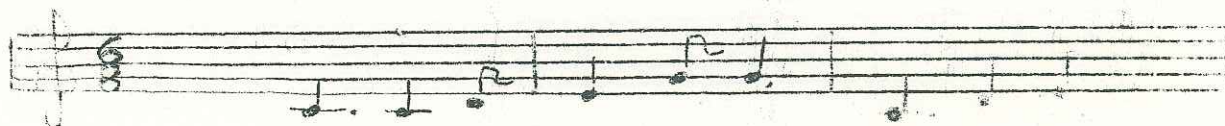


once on Earth he suf-fered pain. Now he comes to

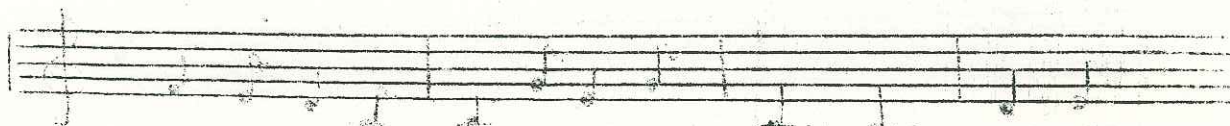


take posse-sion; now the beast has closed his reign.

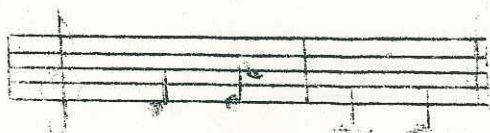
SHUFFLING TUNES



Round in the dance we move borne by the



gen-tle breeze cir-cu-la-ting love which hea-ven



is bes- towing.



Mt. Lebanon

## SIMPLE GIFTS



Tis the gift to be simple, Tis the gift to be



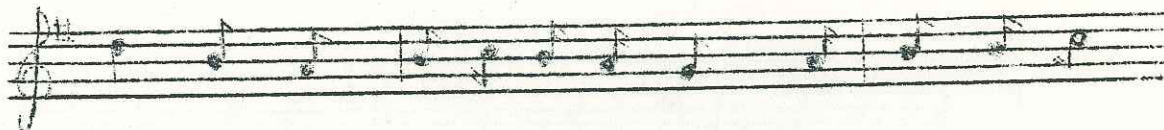
free. Tis the gift to come down where we ought to



be and when we find ourselves in the place just



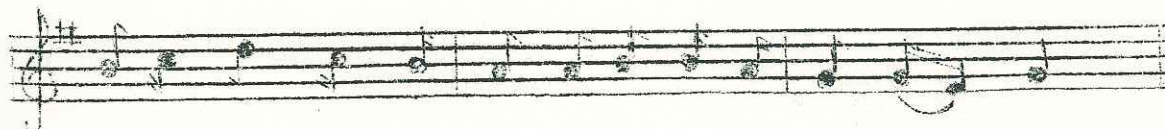
right,, Twill be in the valley of love & delight.



When true sin- 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.

## JOY IN ZION



The Israelites, when they got free, from



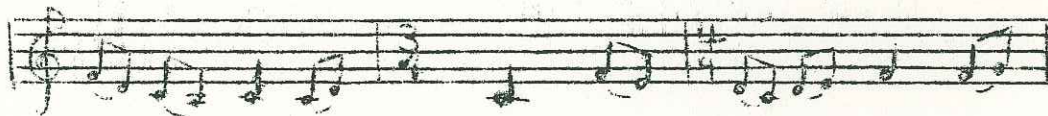
Pharoah's land in haste did flee. And



on the banks of the Red Sea a joyful scene commenced.



An Elder sister led the band, with sounding

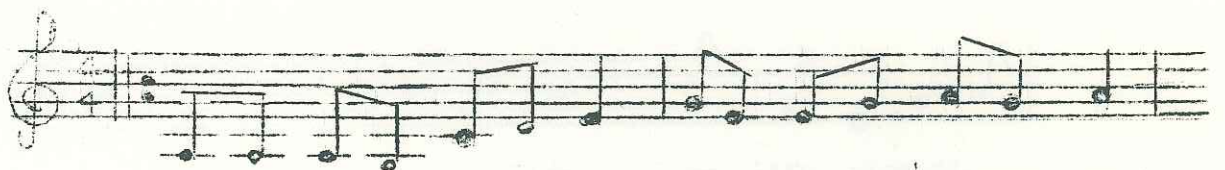


timbrel in her hand, while virgins move by

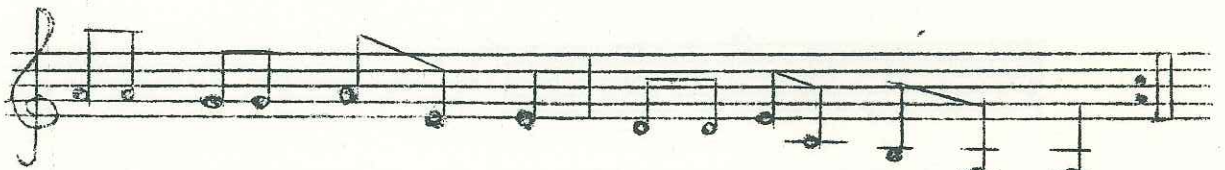


her command, and after her they danced.

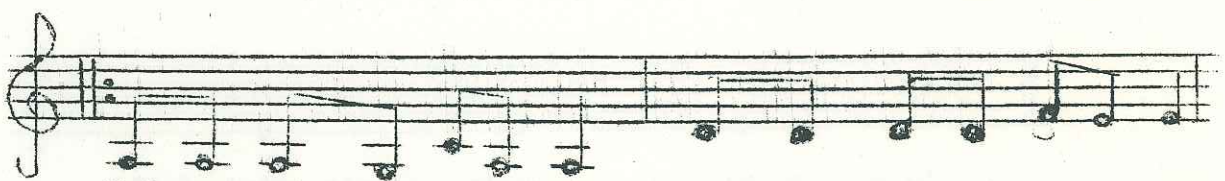
ALL IS CHAOS



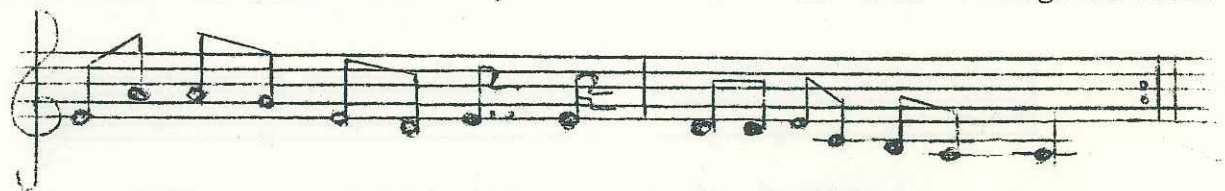
All is cha-os all is dark only in the gos-pel ark



There's safety from all harm and a cover from the storm



Let us prize our holy call from this dark be-nighted world



to se-cure a home a-bove Where All is harmony and love.

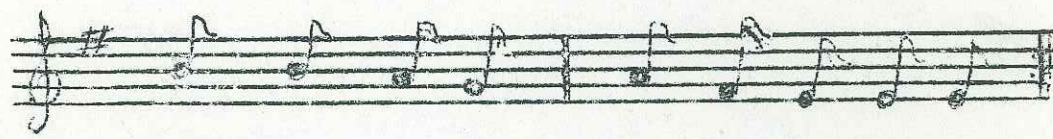
Canaan  
Mt. Lebanon



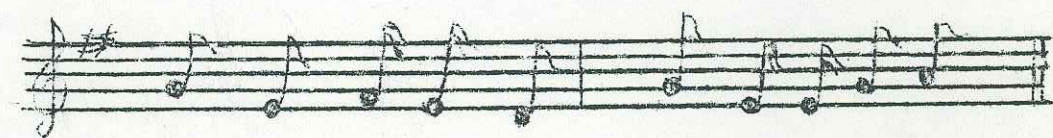
COME SHAKER LIFE



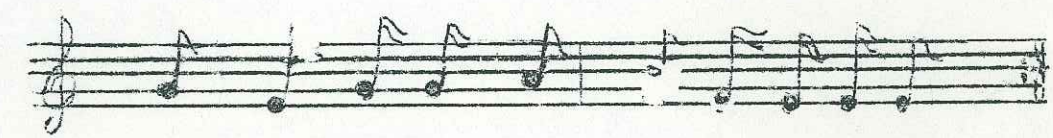
Come life, Shaker life, Come life eternal.



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.