

Milford

[Hymn for Easter Day]

Joseph Stephenson

Treble

Alto

Tenor
Horn in F

Bass

If an-gels sung a Sa-viour's birth, if

I an - gels sung a

8 If an-gels sung a Sa - viour's birth, if an - gels sung a

If an-gels sung a Sa - viour's birth, if

⑥

an-gel's sung a Sa - viour's birth on that au - spi - cious

Sa - viour's, Sa - - viour's birth on that au - spi - cious

8 Sa - viour's, Sa - viour's birth on that au - spi - cious

an - gels sung a Sa - viour's birth on that au - spi - cious

⑪

morn, We

morn, We well may im - mi -

8 morn, We well may im - mi - tate their mirth, we

morn, We well may im - mi - tate their mirth, we well may im - mi -

Milford

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well may im - mi - tate their mirth Now he a - gain is born, now
 -tate _____ their mirth Now he a - gain is born _____
 8 well may im - mi - tate their mirth Now
 -tate _____ their mirth Now he a - gain is

21

he a - gain is born, now he a - gain is born.
 now he a - gain is born, a - gain is born.
 8 he a - gain is born, now he a - gain is born.
 born, now he a - gain _____ is born.

1. If angels sung a Saviour's birth
 On that auspicious morn,
 We well may imitate their mirth
 Now he again is born.
2. If stars in heav'n shone bright as day
 To light the manger throne,
 We should rejoice as well as they
 That love doth reign alone.
3. All Glory be to God on high,
 And to the earth be peace;
 Goodwill henceforth to men
 Begin and never cease.

Joseph Stephenson, a contemporary of William Knapp, was for 45 years Clerk to the Unitarian Church of Poole, Dorset, between 1766 and 1810. MILFORD occurs, with regional variations, in many church manuscripts, from Dorset, along the south coast to Sussex, west to Bristol, to Somerset, and north to Oxford.

It also travelled to America, and Stephenson's first book of 'Church Harmony', first printed in England in 1756, was reprinted there as early as 1766. It was first called MILFORD in 1779, the name keeping strictly to America.

This setting comes from a collection of 33 psalms and 10 anthems, possibly compiled by Matthew Wilkins of Great Milton, Oxon., between 1755 and 1760, (no title page), and now owned by Sheila and Edwin Macadam.

Therein it was entitled 'Hymn for Easter Day'.

Alto line originally in alto clef and an octave higher.

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