

EIGHT
TRADITIONAL ENGLISH
CAROLS.

Collected and Arranged

— by —

R. Vaughan Williams.

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Preface.

The following carols have been noted in various parts of England during the last ten years. The names of various counties where they have been collected are placed at the head of each carol; but it is not to be imagined that they belong exclusively to those counties.

In some cases the words as sung to me were incomplete and have been completed from other sources. In one case (N^o 3) the text as sung was very corrupt owing to the singer being a gipsy and pronouncing the words phonetically without fully understanding their meaning. In this case it has been necessary to make several conjectural emendations.

My thanks are due to the following:—

To M^{rs} Leather for kind permission to include N^o 6 ('The Truth sent from above').

To M^{rs} Shawcross for kind permission to make use of "Old Castleton Christmas Carols" by the late Rev. W.H. Shawcross.

To M^r F. Sidgwick for permission to print verse 3. of N^o 4. ('Down in yon forest') as given in "Popular Carols" (Sidgwick & Jackson).

To M^r Reginald Gatty and M^r Ivor Gatty for help in discovering and noting the Yorkshire and Derbyshire carols.

And to the singers who originally allowed me to note down these carols from their singing.

R. Vaughan Williams.

100046
171548
V 465e

1. AND ALL IN THE MORNING.

(DERBYSHIRE.)

Traditional Carol collected and arranged by
R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.

Maestoso.

mf *risoluto*

con gva ad lib.

It was on —

}	1. Christ - mas
	2. New Year's
	3. The Twelfth
	4. Twen-ti-eth
	5. Can-dle-mas

 day, And all in the morn - ing,

{	Our
	They
	The
	The
	They

Sa - viour was born, And our
cir-cum-cised our Saviour And our
Wise Men were led, To our
Wise Men re - turned, From our
vis - i - ted the Tem-ple, With our

Heaven-ly — King; And was not this a —

joy - ful — thing, And sweet Je - sus they called Him by name. —

con gva ad lib.
MADE IN ENGLAND
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pp

It was on—

6. Ho - ly Wednesday,	} And all
7. Sheer— Thurs-day,	
8. Good— Fri - day,	

dim. *pp*

con gva ad lib.

in the morn - ing,

{ That Ju - das be-trayed Our dear	} Heaven-ly—
{ They plait-ed a crown of thorns, For our	
{ They cru - ci - fied our Sa-viour, And our	

King; And was not this a— woe - ful— thing, And sweet

Je - sus well call— Him by name.

L.H.

SOLO OR VOICES IN UNISON.

f largamente

9. It was on — Eas - ter

The first system of music features a vocal line on a single staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves. The vocal line begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics "9. It was on — Eas - ter". The piano accompaniment includes markings for *cresc.* and *f largamente*.

The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "Day, And all in the morn - ing, Our Sa - viour a - rose Our own". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady accompaniment.

The third system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "Heaven - ly — King; The sun and the moon They did". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady accompaniment.

The fourth system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "both — rise with Him; And sweet Je - sus we'll call — Him by name." The piano accompaniment includes markings for *rall.* and *ff*.

(CHORUS AD LIB.)

The chorus section is written on two staves, featuring a melodic line and a supporting accompaniment.

The fifth system continues the piano accompaniment with markings for *rall.* and *ff*.

Arrangement for unaccompanied singing.

The musical score is arranged for four voices: Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), and Bass (B.). It is written in 2/2 time and consists of three systems of staves. The first system shows the vocal parts with lyrics underneath. The second and third systems continue the musical notation for the vocal parts.

It was on Christmas Day
 And all in the morning,
 Our Saviour was born,
 And our Heavenly King;
*And was not this a joyful thing,
 And sweet Jesus they called Him by name.*

It was on New Year's Day
 And all in the morning,
 They circumcised our Saviour
 And our Heavenly King;

It was on the Twelfth Day,
 And all in the morning,
 The Wise Men were led
 To our Heavenly King;

It was on Twentieth Day
 And all in the morning,
 The Wise Men returned
 From our Heavenly King;

It was on Candlemas Day
 And all in the morning,
 They visited the Temple
 With our Heavenly King;

It was on Holy Wednesday
 And all in the morning,
 That Judas betrayed
 Our dear Heavenly King;
*And was not this a woeful thing
 And sweet Jesus we'll call Him by name.*

It was on Sheer Thursday,
 And all in the morning,
 They plaited a crown of thorns,
 For our Heavenly King;

It was on Good Friday,
 And all in the morning,
 They crucified our Saviour,
 And our Heavenly King;

It was on Easter Day,
 And all in the morning,
 Our Saviour arose,
 Our own Heavenly King;
 The sun and the moon
 They did both rise with Him,
 And sweet Jesus we'll call Him by name.

If this Carol is considered too long the best verses to omit are 2, 4, 5 and 7.

The above text has been completed from "Old Castleton Christmas Carols" edited by the late Rev. W. H. Shawcross.
 Melody and first verse of text from M^r. Hall, Castleton, Derbyshire.

2. ON CHRISTMAS NIGHT.

(SUSSEX.)

Traditional Carol collected and arranged by
R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.

Allegretto grazioso.

p

1. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing, To hear the news the
sin de-parts be - fore Thy grace, Then life and health come

pp

an - gels bring. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing, To hear the news the an-gels bring;
in its place. When sin de-parts be - fore Thy grace, Then life and health come in its place;

d.-d.

News of great joy - news of great mirth, News of our mer - ci - ful - Kings
An - gels and men with joy may sing, All for to see the new - born

1. birth. 2. When King. 3. All out of dark - ness

we_ have light, Which made the an - gels sing this night. All out of dark - ness

we have light, Which made the an - gels sing this night: - "Glo - ry to God and peace to

men, Now and for ev - er - more. A - men?"

rall. *a tempo*

colla voce *a tempo*

rall.

1. On Christmas night all Christians sing,
To hear the news the angels bring;
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth.

2. When sin departs before Thy grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
Angels and men with joy may sing,
All for to see the new-born King.

3. All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night;
"Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and for evermore. Amen."

Arrangement for unaccompanied singing.

S.

1. On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing, On
 2. When sin de - parts be fore Thy grace, When
 3. From out of dark - ness we have light, From

A.

1. On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing, To
 2. When sin de - parts be fore Thy grace, Then
 3. From out of dark - ness we have light, Which

T.

1. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing, To hear the news the an-gels bring, To
 2. When sin de-parts be-fore Thy grace, Then life and health come in its place, Then
 3. From out of dark-ness we have light, Which made the an-gels sing this night, Which

B.

1. On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing, To
 2. When sin de - parts be fore Thy grace, Then
 3. From out of dark - ness we have light, Which.

Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing, To hear the news the an-gels bring; News of great
 sin de-parts be-fore Thy grace, Then life and health come in its place; An-gels and
 out of dark-ness we have light, Which made the an-gels sing this night:— "Glo-ry to

hear the news the an-gels bring; News of
 life and health come in its place; An-gels
 made the an-gels sing this night:— "Glo-ry

hear the news the an-gels bring; News of
 life and health come in its place; An-gels
 made the an-gels sing this night:— "Glo-ry

hear the news the an-gels bring; News of
 life and health come in its place; An-gels
 made the an-gels sing this night:— "Glo-ry

d. = d.

joy, news of great mirth, News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
 'men with joy may sing, All for to see the new - born King.
 God and peace to men, Now and for ev - er - more A - men.'

— great mirth, — News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
 — may sing, — All for to see the new - born King.
 — to God, — Now and for ev - er - more A - men.'

— great mirth, — News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
 — may sing, — All for to see the new - born King.
 — to God, — Now and for ev - er - more A - men.'

— great mirth, — News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
 — may sing, — All for to see the new - born King.
 — to God, — Now and for ev - er - more A - men.'

The above harmonisation is taken partly from "Fantasia on Christmas carols" by kind permission of the publishers Messrs Stainer & Bell. For other versions of words and melody see *Journal of the Folk-song Society* Vol. II. p. 127. Also Sharp *English Folk-carols* No. X. Melody and Text from Miss Verrall, Monks Gate, Sussex.

3. THE TWELVE APOSTLES.

(STAFFORDSHIRE.)

Traditional Carol collected and arranged by
R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.

Andante.

1. When Je - sus Christ had -

p

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time, starting with a whole rest followed by a half note G4, quarter notes A4 and B4, and a half note C5. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment, starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic. It features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, both with long, sweeping phrases.

lived For thir - ty years or more, He - work - ed ma - ny -

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music. The vocal line continues with quarter notes D5, E5, F5, G5, and a half note A5. The piano accompaniment continues with sustained chords and moving lines in both hands.

won - drous works With the twelve a - pos - tles pure. 2. Then -

Detailed description: This system contains the final two staves of music. The vocal line concludes with quarter notes G5, F5, E5, and a half note D5. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support throughout, ending with a final chord in the right hand and a sustained note in the left hand.

Ju - das with the - Jews Our Sa - viour did - be - tray, And

un - to them, for - thir - ty pence Je - sus was sold a - way. 3. Then

Ju - das sought a - place With a tribe of arm - èd men; He - bound his mas - ter -

pp *simile*

fast in - bands, In - whom there was no sin. 4. They

pp

Version for unaccompanied singing.

Andante.

1. When Jesus Christ had lived
For thirty years or more,
He workèd many wondrous works
With the twelve apostles pure.
2. Then Judas with the Jews
Our Saviour did betray,
And unto them, for thirty pence
Jesus was sold away.
3. Then Judas sought a place
With a tribe of armèd men,
He bound his master fast in bands
In whom there was no sin.
4. They led Him on straightway,
Unto a judgment place;
Without God's leave He was condemned
To die in vile disgrace.
5. And for His garment then
Brave soldiers did cast dice,
It was a garment without seam
And a jewel of great price.
6. They nailed His hands and feet
And crowned His head with thorns,
They gave Him vinegar to drink
But He the spongeful scorns.
7. Now all things seemed to mourn,
When our blessèd Saviour died;
The hills and rocks did rend in twain
And the mountains did divide.
8. The heavens themselves grew dim;
The moon forsook her light;
And for three hours in one day
It was a dismal sight.
9. At any Christmas time,
Amongst good Christians all,
This Christmas-carol may be sung
In any house or hall.

The text as originally sung was corrupt in several places.
The following are the chief emended phrases.

Verse 1. The following verse omitted after Verse 1.

'He delivered up the twelve
Sacrament to make,
He shewed Simon Hebrews house
A Testament to make.'

Verse 2, line 3, "And unto him offered forty ten pence!"

" 3, " 1, "Then Judas seeked a mace!"

" 6, " 4, "That many a spongeful scorns!"

" 7, " 3, "The hills and locks did rant and roar!"

" 8, " 2, "The mountain!"

For another version of text with a different melody, see Sharp *English Folk carols*, XIX.
Melody and text from Mr Wildes of Tipton, Staffs.

4. DOWN IN YON FOREST.

(DERBYSHIRE.)

Traditional Carol collected and arranged by
R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.

Andantino.

p

1. Down in yon for-est there stands a hall,
3. In that bed— there lies— a knight, } *The*
5. Un-der that bed— there runs— a flood, } *pp*

CHORUS. Ad lib. *pp*

The
pp

Andantino.

pp

bells— of Par - a - dise I heard them ring, } It's cov - er'd all ov - er with
Whose wounds do bleed— by
The one half runs wa - ter, the

pp Ring ——— Ring ———

bells of Par - a - dise I heard them ring,

pp Ring ——— Ring ———

pur-ple and pall,
 day— and night,
 oth-er runs blood, } *And I love my Lord Je - sus a - bove a - ny - thing.* —

pp *Ring,* — *Ring,* —

I love my Lord Je - sus a - bove a - ny - thing. —

pp *Ring,* — *Ring,* —

2. In — that hall — there stands a bed, } *The*
 4. At the bed - side — there lies — a stone, } *The*
 6. At the bed's foot — there grows a thorn, } *The*

pp

bells_ of Par - a - dise I heard them ring, It's cov - er'd all ov - er with
 Which the sweet Vir - gin Ma - ry Which ev - er blows blos - som since

CHORUS SOPRANO.

bells _____

CHORUS ALTO.

scar - let so red, }
 knelt_ up - on, } And I love my Lord Je - sus a - bove a - ny - thing. —
 He — was born, } Ah!

SOPRANO. *pp* Ah! _____

ALTO. *pp* Ah! _____

pp

mf

7. Ov - er that bed - the

SOPRANO. CHORUS SOP. ALTO.

ALTO. CHORUS TEN. BASS.

moon shines bright, The bells - of Par - a - dise I heard them ring, De -

mf BELLS.

S. A. The bells - of Par - a - dise I heard them ring,

T. B. *mf* The bells _____ ring, _____

-not - ing our Sa - viour was born — this night. *f* And I love my Lord Je - sus a - *dim - e -*

f *dim - e -*
I love my Lord Je - sus a -

f *dim - e -*
I love my Lord Je - sus a -

f *dim - e -*

-rall. *pp*
-bove a - ny - thing. _____

-rall. *pp*
-bove a - ny - thing. _____

-rall. *pp*
-bove a - ny - thing. _____

-rall. *pp* *ppp*

Andantino. Arrangement for unaccompanied voices.

SOLO.
Down in yon forest there stands a hall, CHORUS.
The

S.
A.
T.
B.

Ring,
SOLO.
Ring,
The

bells of Par-a-dise I heard them ring, SOLO.
It's cov-er'd all ov-er with
bells of Par-a-dise I heard them ring, Ring,
SOLO.
bells I heard them ring, Ring,

pur-ple and pall, CHORUS.
And I love my Lord Je-sus a-bove a-ny-thing.
And I love my Lord Je-sus a-bove a-ny-thing.
And I love Je-sus a-bove a-ny-thing.

N.B. It is suggested that the Solo portion be sung without harmony in the opening verses; Also that the Solo portion be divided among various voices (male and female.)

1. Down in yon forest there stands a hall,
The bells of Paradise I heard them ring,
It's covered all over with purple and pall,
And I love my Lord Jesus above anything.
2. In that hall there stands a bed,
It's covered all over with scarlet so red.
3. In that bed there lies a knight,
Whose wounds do bleed by day and night.
4. At the bed-side there lies a stone,
Which the sweet Virgin Mary knelt upon.
5. Under that bed there runs a flood,
The one half-runs water, the other runs blood.
6. At the bed's foot there grows a thorn,
Which ever blows blossom since He was born.
7. Over that bed the moon shines bright,
The bells of Paradise I heard them ring,
Denoting our Saviour was born this night,
And I love my Lord Jesus above anything.

Text unaltered except for (i) the addition of Verse 3, which has been taken from a version collected many years ago and reprinted in "Popular Carols" (Sidgwick & Jackson, by kind permission.)
(ii) In Verse 5 the word 'flood' has been substituted for 'river.'
(iii) In Verse 6 'At the bed's foot' has been substituted for 'At the foot of the bed!'
For a full account of this Carol and its probable allegorical interpretation see *Journal of the Folk Song Society*, Vol. IV. p. 52.
Melody and text of 6 Verses from M^r Hall, Castleton, Derbyshire.

5. MAY DAY CAROL.

(CAMBRIDGESHIRE.)
 Traditional Carol collected and arranged by
 R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.

Larghetto.

1. A - wake, a - wake good peo - ple - all; A -

- wake and you shall hear That Christ has di - ed for our sins, For He

lov - ed us so dear. 1. Last. 2. So

* Crotchet in VV. 1 & 4. ♪ Crotchet in Verse 1 only. † Crotchet in VV. 3, 4 & 5.
 ‡ Crotchet in VV. 1 & 4. † Crotchet in Verse 1 only.

Version for unaccompanied singing.

Larghetto. ★

N.B. Soprano Part ★ in vv. 2, 3 & 5; φ invv 2; etc. † in vv 3, 4, & 5.

1. Awake, awake good people all,
Awake and you shall hear
That Christ has dièd for our sins
For He lovèd us so dear.
2. So dearly, so dearly has Christ lovèd us
And for our sins was slain;
Christ bids us leave off our wickedness
And turn to the Lord again.
3. The early cock so early crows,
That is passing the night away,
For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised,
Lord, at the great judgment day.
4. A branch of may I have brought to you,
And at your door it stands;
It is but a sprout, but it's well budded out
By the work of our Lord's hands.
5. Now my song, that is done, and I must be gone,
No longer can I stay,
So God bless you all, both great and small,
And I wish you a joyful May.

With one or two very small emendations ('was' for 'were' and 'but it's' for 'its') the text given here is exactly that sung.
For other versions see "*English County Songs*" and other collections. Also "*Journal of the Folk-song Society*," Vol. 1. pp 180-182.
Melody and text from M^r Flack, Fowlmere, Cambs.

6. THE TRUTH SENT FROM ABOVE.

(HEREFORDSHIRE.)

Traditional Carol collected and arranged by
R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.

Andante sostenuto.

1. This is the truth sent from a-bove, The truth of God, the God of love; There
first thing which I do re-late, Is that God did man cre-ate, The

-fore don't turn me from your door, But hear-ken all both rich and poor. 2. The
next thing which to you I'll tell, Wo - man was made with man to dwell. —

3. Then af-ter this 'twas God's own choice To place them both in Pa-ra-dise, There
they did eat, which was a sin, And thus their ru - in did be-gin; Ru -

to re-main from e-vil free, Ex - cept they ate of such a tree. 4. And
-ired themselves, both you and me, And all of their pos -

- te - ri - ty. 5. Thus we were heirs to end-less woes, Till God the Lord did

molto rall.
in-ter-pose, And so a prom-ise soon did run That He would re-deem us - by His Son.
colla voce

Version for unaccompanied singing.

S.
A.
T.
B.

1. This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love;
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.
2. The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create,
The next thing which to you I'll tell:
Woman was made with man to dwell.
3. Then after this 'twas God's own choice,
To place them both in Paradise,
There to remain from evil free,
Except they ate of such a tree.
4. And they did eat, which was a sin,
And thus their ruin did begin;
Ruined themselves, both you and me,
And all of their posterity.
5. Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose,
And so a promise soon did run
That He would redeem us by His Son.

Melody and text included by kind permission of M^{rs} Leather.

Harmonisation adapted from "Fantasia on Christmas carols" by kind permission of the publishers, Messrs Stainer & Bell.

For notes on text and melody see *Journal of the Folk-song Society* Vol. IV. p.17.

For another tune and a slightly different version of text see Sharp *English Folk-carols*, XVIII.

Melody and Text from M^r W. Jenkins, Kings Pyon, Herefordshire.

7. THE BIRTH OF THE SAVIOUR.

(DERBYSHIRE.)

Traditional Carol collected and arranged by
R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.

Largo.

1. All you that are to mirth_ in- clined, Con - sid - er

well and bear in mind What our good God for us hath done In -

send - ing His be - lov - ed Son. _____ 2. Let all your

songs and prais - es be Un - to His heavn - ly ma - jes -

- ty, And ev - er - more a - mong your mirth Re - mem - ber

Christ our Sa - viour's birth.

Arrangement for unaccompanied voices.

S.
A.
T.
B.

1. All you that are to mirth inclined,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us hath done
In sending His beloved Son.
2. Let all your songs and praises be
Unto His heavenly Majesty,
And evermore among your mirth
Remember Christ our Saviour's birth.
3. The five-and-twentieth of December,
Good cause have we for to remember,
In Bethlehem, upon this morn,
There was our blessed Saviour born.
4. The night before that happy tide
The spotless Virgin and her guide,
Went long time seeking up and down,
To find them lodging in the town.
5. But mark how all things came to pass,
The inns and lodgings so filled was,
That they could have no room at all
But in a silly ox's stall.
6. Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their herds and flocks of feeding sheep,
To whom God's angel did appear,
Which put the shepherds in great fear.
7. "Prepare and go," the angel said,
"To Bethlehem, be not afraid,
There shall you find, this blessed morn,
The princely Babe, sweet Jesus, born."
8. With thankful hearts and joyful mind,
The shepherds went this Babe to find,
And as the heavenly angel told,
They did our Saviour Christ behold.
9. No costly robes nor rich attire
Did Jesus Christ our Lord desire;
No music nor sweet harmony,
Till glorious angels from on high
10. Did in a melodious manner sing
Praises unto our Heavenly King,
All honour, glory, might and praise,
They did to Christ our Saviour raise.

The first verse only was sung with the melody—subsequent verses taken from "Old Castleton Christmas Carols" edited by the late Rev. W.H. Shawcross.
Several verses have been omitted.
For a different version of the text with another tune, see Sharp *English Folk-carols*, VIII.
Melody and first verse of text from Mr Hall, Castleton, Derbyshire.

8. WASSAIL SONG.

(YORKSHIRE.)

Traditional Carol collected and arranged by
R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.

Allegro.

1. We've been a-while a-wan-der-ing A -

- mongst the leaves so green, — But now we come a-was-sail-ing, So

plain-ly to be seen, For its Christmas time, when we tra-vel far and near; May God

This accompaniment may also be performed by voices, vocalising on "Ah" or singing with closed lips.

bless you and send you a happy New Year. _____

rall.

We've been awhile a-wandering
 Amongst the leaves so green,
 But now we come a-wassailing,
 So plainly to be seen;
 For it's Christmas time, when we travel far and near;
 May God bless you and send you a happy New Year.

We are not daily beggars
 That beg from door to door;
 We are your neighbours children,
 For we've been here before;
 For it's, etc.

We've got a little purse,
 Made of leathern ratchin skin;
 We want a little of your money
 To line it well within;
 For it's, etc.

Call up the butler of this house,
 Likewise the mistress too,
 And all the little children
 That round the table go;
 For it's, etc.

Bring us out a table
 And spread it with a cloth,
 Bring us out a mouldy cheese
 And some of your Christmas loaf;
 For it's, etc.

Good master and good mistress,
 While you're sitting by the fire,
 Pray think of us poor children
 That's wandered in the mire;
 For it's, etc.

Text completed from another Yorkshire version sung to another tune.
 For another version of the text with a different tune see *English County Songs*.
 Melody and text from singers (names not known) near Hooton Roberts, Yorkshire.

Dedicated to CECIL SHARP.

FANTASIA
ON
CHRISTMAS CAROLS

for
Baritone Solo.
Chorus and
Orchestra.

By

R. Vaughan Williams.

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London.
STAINER & BELL, LTD
69, Newman Street, W.

MADE IN ENGLAND