

“Diadem”

and other

Hymns

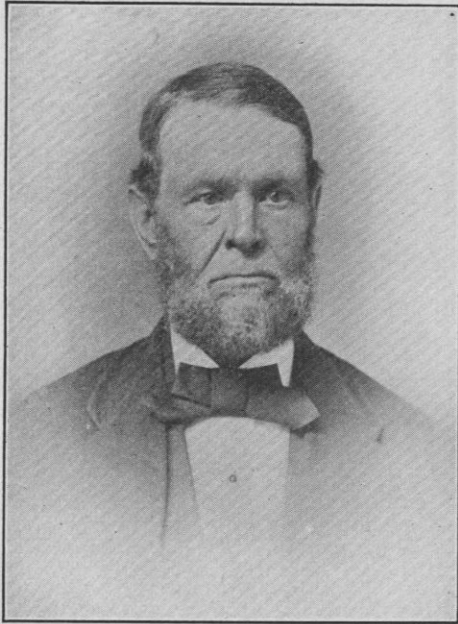


By

James Ellor

COPYRIGHT 1910 BY ARTHUR A. ELLOR

✓“Diadem”
and Other Hymns



By James Ellor ✓

~~80.25~~
© Cl. A 428316^c R

MAR 29 1916

no. 2

R E 477
Music

13 Oct. 1921
1764 99

James Ellor

James Ellor, 1819-1899, was born in the Lancashire village of Droylesden, near Manchester, England. He was the second child in a family of six children.

The Ellor family with scarcely an exception showed marked musical ability, but in James it amounted to genius. At eleven years of age he was conceded to be the best sight singer in the village. He also easily mastered the musical instruments which came to his hand, playing especially well on the violin and 'cello. The story is told of him that the first day a 'cello was brought into the house the family were astonished to find him singing soprano to a hymn and playing the bass part on the 'cello, and he was so small that he had to stand on a stool to play the instrument.

While James was still in his teens, a gentleman of means by the name of Rider, being also a musician and a philanthropist, came into the village. Mr. Rider became interested in the welfare of the group of young men in the Methodist Chapel, of whom James was one. From him James received a good training in harmony, and as he was appointed choir-master of the Droylesden Methodist Chapel about this time, he made good use of this knowledge in writing hymn tunes for the choir. Under his direction the choir attained considerable local fame, and Droylesden, together with the nearby Moravian settlement of Fairfield, in which there were many good musicians, made quite a musical neighborhood.

James Ellor was a young man of parts and with his musical ability gave promise of a brilliant future, but an unfortunate quarrel with a member of the church about a fiddle caused him to give up his place as choir-master, and soon after this he married and came to America. There was very

181 3 11

20

little music in this country at that time except in the churches, and as he had lost his interest in the church, and the only other places where he had opportunity to play were dances and saloons, he dropped his music almost entirely. And thus was a career that promised to be very brilliant abruptly stopped.

With the exception of a few years' residence in Yonkers, New York, he spent the remainder of his life in the Watsessing section of Bloomfield, New Jersey. He very rarely appeared in public as a musician, but instead of the pursuit of music gave his time to reading. Speaking from a two years' residence in his home, I can say that he was one of the best-informed men and one of the most interesting conversationalists that it has ever been my privilege to know. During the last years of his life he was almost blind. He died in the year 1899 and was buried from the home of his son Charles in East Orange, New Jersey, near the dividing line between that town and Bloomfield, and his body lies in the Bloomfield Cemetery.

James Ellor was brother to William and Andrew Ellor, so long and so well known in Bloomfield. These three brothers were the progenitors of the large family of Ellors in the Watsessing section and its vicinity, and pioneers in the hat industry here. There were four children in James Ellor's family, Joseph, Mary Jane, Samuel, and Charles, all of whom are deceased. Charles inherited his father's genius for music, and for forty years was organist of the Watsessing Methodist Episcopal Church, and was greatly beloved by a host of friends.

ALFRED H. EDGERLEY.

Bloomfield, N. J., February 23, 1916.

“Diadem”

The tune “Diadem” has spread until it is now being sung throughout the evangelical Christian world. While in every case the tune appears substantially the same, yet no two publications are exactly alike, and none are the same as the original.

Many interesting stories are told of this hymn. Mr. William Ellor, a brother of the composer of “Diadem,” while travelling in Scotland, happened to be in a church in Edinburg during a church celebration. He noticed “Diadem” on the program without the composers’ name, and after the service interviewed the organist, who said that he had never heard of James Ellor. A Welsh choir while touring America sang “Diadem” at Ocean Grove, New Jersey, as a Welsh song, and were astonished to learn that the composer of the tune had for many years lived in the near-by town of Bloomfield. An intimate friend of James Ellor says that some years ago a group of Norwegian sailors came out on the deck of a transatlantic liner at three o’clock in the morning, took off their hats, and sang “Diadem” in a manner that was truly inspiring. Those singers had probably never heard of the composer of the hymn.

I have received many requests for a correct copy of “Diadem,” and also many inquiries for other music which it seemed natural to suppose the composer of “Diadem” might have written. In response to these requests I have selected eight hymn tunes from his manuscripts, which seem to me to fairly represent his work. All that he left is contained in a small hand-made, hand-ruled book, $3\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ inches, or a little larger than a dollar bill. Besides “Diadem,” this little book contains twenty-two hymn tunes and an unfinished

response. They are written in four lines, top line tenor, second line alto, third line soprano, fourth line bass. He did some other work of real merit, but it has not been preserved.

The tune "Diadem" has never been published from the original except by Asa Hull of New York in 1888, but as he saw fit to make some important changes it is fair to say that that edition was not authoritative. Furthermore, even this publication is not exact, for the original was written in the key of C and in 6-8 time; but since the tuning fork used by James Ellor, and now in my possession, is almost a tone lower than international pitch, the key of B flat would be the pitch intended. For the same reason the other hymns are a tone lower than originally written. I have also used 3-4 time as a more convenient form, and which in no way changes the effect desired by the composer.

How a tune could spread with the name of the composer unknown is easily understood if one is familiar with the musical customs of that time. James Ellor was leader of the choir of the Methodist Chapel in the village of Droylesden, England. There was no organ in the church and few hymn books containing tunes. Violins, a double bass, and whatever other instruments they could get, together with the voices, made up the choir. They had very little printed music, and each choirmaster tried his hand at composing. To save time and labor each singer received his part only. No value seems to have been placed upon these compositions, and the most popular of them spread from church to church. The Methodist itinerant also would take the best of these tunes with him on his travels. And so "Diadem" spread, sometimes copied from the part-books, and sometimes by ear. By way of illustration an interesting incident was told by Mr. Ellor himself. He confided to a friend the fact that

he had composed a hymn tune which he thought much of and which he expected to use at the approaching Anniversary of the Chapel of which he was choirmaster. The friend asked that he might take the composition to look it over. The request being granted, the friend copied the parts and had his choir sing the piece at their Anniversary services, which preceded those of Mr. Ellor's church. Naturally Mr. Ellor was angry, but the other man thought he had played rather a clever trick.

The manuscript which James Ellor left contains no words; nothing is indicated but the meter, and it is impossible to say what words were originally used, except for "Diadem" and "Autumn." In the latter tune is written, in the composer's hand, "See the leaves around us falling." To the tune "Paris" I have used the same words which I have often heard contemporary friends of James Ellor use in singing that hymn. For the remainder of the tunes the words were selected from the Church Hymnal.

ARTHUR ANDREW ELLOR.



NEWTON.

ROBERT A. WEST.

L. M.

JAMES ELLOR

1. Come, let us tune our lof - tiest song, And raise to
 2. His sov - 'reign power our bod - ies made; Our souls are
 3. Burn ev - 'ry breast with Je - sus' love, Bound ev - 'ry
 4. Ex - tol the Lamb with lof - tiest song, As - cend for

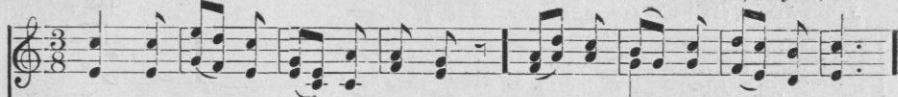
Christ our joy - ful strain; Wor - ship and thanks to
 His im - mor - tal breath; And when His crea - tures
 heart with rap - turous joy; And saints on earth, with
 Him our cheer - ful strain; Wor - ship and thanks to

Him be - long, Who reigns, and shall for - ev - er reign.
 sinned, He bled, To save us from e - ter - nal death.
 saints a - bove, Your voic - es in His praise em - ploy.
 Him be - long, Who reigns, and shall for - ev - er reign.

PARIS.

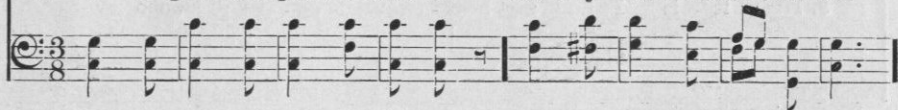
ROBERT ROBINSON,

JAMES ELLOR, July 17, 1840.



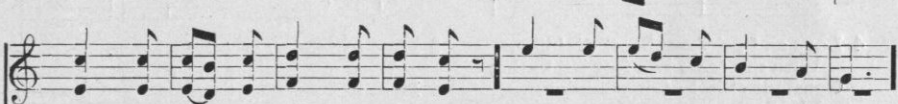
1. Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing,
2. Here I'll raise my Eb - en - ez - er;
3. O to grace how great a debt - or

Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Hith - er by Thy help I'm come;
Dai - ly I'm constrained to be!



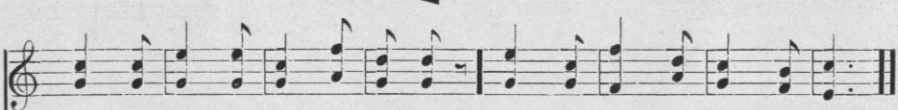
Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
And I hope, by Thy good pleas - ure,
Let Thy good - ness, like a fet - ter,

Call for songs of loud - est praise.
Safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee!



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net,
Je - sus sought me when a stranger,
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it,

Sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
Wand'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to leave the God I love;



Praise the mount—I'm fixed up-on it— Mount of Thy re - deem - ing love!
He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, In - terposed His pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.



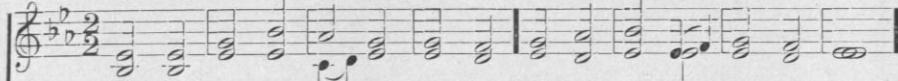
AUTUMN.

See the leaves around us falling.

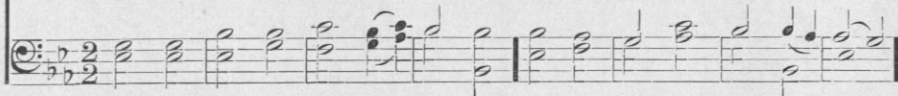
JAMES ALLEN, alt. by WALTER SHIRLEY.

8, 7.

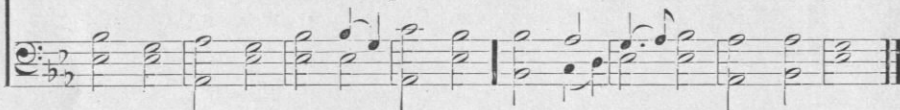
JAMES ELLOR, July 14, 1841.



1. Sweet the moments, rich in bless - ing, Which be - fore the cross I spend;
2. Tru - ly bless - ed is the sta - tion, Low be - fore His cross to lie;
3. Here it is I find my heav - en While up - or the cross I gaze;



- Life, and health, and peace pos - sess - ing, From the sin - ner's dy - ing Friend.
While I see di - vine com - pas - sion Beam - ing in His gra - cious eye.
Love I much? I've much for - giv - en; I'm a mir - a - cle of grace.



- 4 Love and grief my heart dividing,
With my tears His feet I'll bathe;
Constant still, in faith abiding,
Life deriving from His death.

- 5 Here in tender, grateful sorrow,
With my Saviour will I stay;
Here new hope and strength will borrow;
Here will love my fears away.

AMBROSE.

JOSIAH CONDER.

L. M.

JAMES ELLOR, May 23, 1840.

1. The Lord is King! lift up thy voice, O earth, and
 2. The Lord is King! child of the dust, The Judge of
 3. He reigns! ye saints, ex - alt your strains, Your God is

all ye heavens, re - jice! From world to world the
 all the earth is just; Ho - ly and true are the
 King, your Fa - - ther reigns; And He is at the

joy shall ring, The Lord om - ni - po - tent is King.
 all His ways: Let ev - 'ry crea - ture speak His praise.
 Fa - ther's side, The Man of love, the Cru - ci - fied.

4 Come, make your wants, your burdens known,
 He will present them at the throne;
 And angel bands are waiting there
 His messages of love to bear.

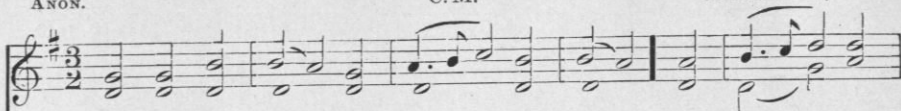
5 O when His wisdom can mistake,
 His might decay, His love forsake,
 Then may His children cease to sing,
 The Lord omnipotent is King.

THORNLEY.

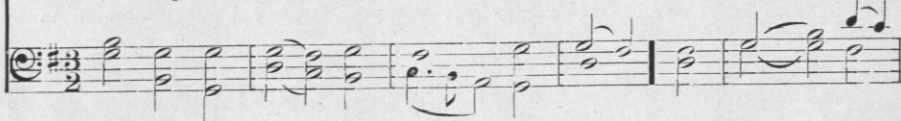
ANON.

C. M.

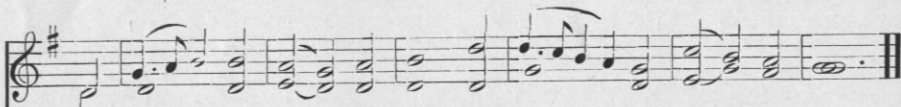
JAMES ELLOR, 1840.



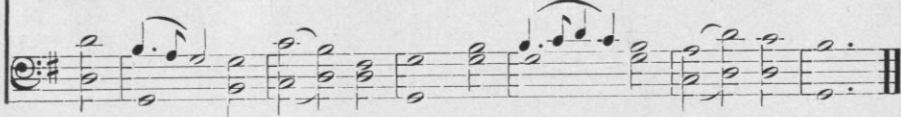
1. Our high - est joys suc - ceed our griefs, And peace is
 2. We gain our rest through wea - - ri - ness, From bit - - ter
 3. We reap where we have sown the seed; Gain is the



born of pain; Smiles fol - low bit - - ter blind - ing tears,
 draw the sweet: Strength comes from weak - - ness, hope from fear,
 fruit of loss; Life springs from death and at the end,



As sun - shine fol - lows rain, As sun - shine fol - lows rain.
 And vic - t'ry from de - feat, And vic - t'ry from de - feat.
 The crown suc - ceeds the cross, The crown suc - ceeds the cross.



SAMUEL.

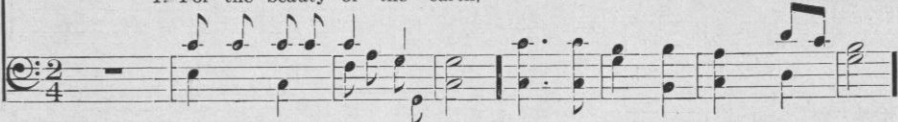
FOLLIOTT S. PIERPOINT.

7s, 6l.

JAMES ELLOR, July 7, 1840.



1. For the beau - ty of the earth, For the beau - ty of the skies,
 2. For the beau - ty of each hour Of the day and of the night,
 3. For the joy of ear and eye; For the heart and mind's de - light;
 4. For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter, pa - rent, child,
 1. For the beauty of the earth,



1. For the beauty of the earth,



For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies,—
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon, and stars of light,—
 For the mys - tic har - mo - ny Link - ing sense to sound and sight,—
 Friends on earth, and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild,—



Christ our God, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.
 Christ our God, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.
 Christ our God, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.
 Christ our God, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.



5 For Thy church, that evermore
 Lifteth holy hands above,
 Offering up on every shore
 Its pure sacrifice of love,—
 Christ our God, to Thee we raise
 This our hymn of grateful praise.

6 For Thyself, best Gift Divine!
 To our race so freely given;
 For that great, great love of Thine,
 Peace on earth, and joy in heaven,—
 Christ our God, to Thee we raise
 This our hymn of grateful praise.

DIADEM.

E. PERRONET.

JAMES ELLOR, 1841.

Spirited.

1. All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name, Let an - gels prostrate fall,
 2. Ye chos - en seed of Is - rael's race, Ye ran-somed from the fall,
 3. Let ev - 'ry kin - dred, ev - 'ry tribe, On this ter-res-trial ball,
 4. O that with yon - der sa - cred throng, We at His feet may fall!

Let an - gels pros - trate fall. Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem,
 Ye ran-somed from the fall; Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
 On this ter - res - trial ball; To Him all ma - jes - ty as - scribe,
 We at His feet may fall! We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song,

And crown..... Him,

And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,
 And crown..... Him,

And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, Crown.....

Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, And crown Him Lord of all.

Crown..... Him, crown Him, And crown Him Lord of all.
 Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, And crown Him Lord of all.

..... Him, And crown Him Lord of all.

PROMISE.

REV. SIR HENRY W. BAKER.

7s.

JAMES ELLOR.

1. Praise, O praise our God and King! Hymns of a - do
 2. Praise Him that He made the sun Day by day his
 3. And the sil - ver moon by night, Shin - ing with her
 4. Praise Him that He gave the rain To ma - ture the

ra - tion sing; For His mer - cies still en - dure
 course to run; For His mer - cies still en - dure
 gen - tle light; For His mer - cies still en - dure
 swell - ing grain; For His mer - cies still en - dure

Ev - - - er faith - - ful, ev - - - er sure.
 Ev - - - er faith - - ful, ev - - - er sure:
 Ev - - - er faith - - ful, ev - - - er sure.
 Ev - - - er faith - - ful, ev - - - er sure:

5 And hath bid the fruitful field
 Crops of precious increase yield;
 For His mercies still endure
 Ever faithful, ever sure.

6 Praise Him for our harvest-store,
 He hath filled the garner floor;
 For His mercies still endure
 Ever faithful, ever sure.

7 And for richer food than this,
 Pledge of everlasting bliss;
 For His mercies still endure
 Ever faithful, ever sure-

8 Glory to our bounteous King!
 Glory let creation sing!
 Glory to the Father, Son,
 And blest Spirit, Three in One.