

**SEED-TIME AND HARVEST:
A SACRED CANTATA FOR
SOPRANO AND TENOR
SOLI, AND CHORUS**

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Seed-Time and Harvest: A Sacred Cantata for Soprano and Tenor Soli, and Chorus by John E. West

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JOHN E. WEST

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SOPRANO AND TENOR
SOLI, AND CHORUS**

NOVELLO'S ORIGINAL OCTAVO EDITION.

4s 255

SEED-TIME AND HARVEST

A SACRED CANTATA

FOR SOPRANO AND TENOR SOLI, AND CHORUS

THE WORDS SELECTED AND ARRANGED FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE, &c., INTER-
SPERSED WITH SUITABLE HYMNS, AND THE MUSIC COMPOSED BY

JOHN E. WEST.

PRICE TWO SHILLINGS.

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The Composer desires to express his indebtedness to the Rev. H. O. Mackey, for assistance in partly selecting the words of this work; also to the Rev. H. A. Buxs, M.A., for his Hymn "O Grace of God" (No. 4); to the Rev. Canon Furse, for kind permission to use Dr. Mowbray's Hymn "Sing to the Lord of Harvest" (No. 12); and to his father, W. West, Esq., for the verses to No. 10.

* * * * *

Each part of this Cantata concludes with a Hymn, in which it is suggested that all should join.

SEED-TIME AND HARVEST.

PROLOGUE.

CHORUS.

Gen. viii. 21, 22.—The Lord said, "While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

Ps. civ. 14.—He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that He may bring forth food out of the earth.

PART I.—THE SEED-TIME.

No. 1.—RECITATIVE AND AIR.—*Tenor.*

Eccles. xi. 6.—In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand.

Is. lv. 10.—The rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater.

No. 2.—CHORUS.

Ps. lxxvii.—God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause His face to shine upon us; that Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy saving health among all nations. Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for Thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee.

Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.

No. 3.—RECITATIVE AND AIR.—*Soprano.*

James v. 7.—Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it.

Be gracious, Heaven! for now laborious man
Has done his part. Ye fostering breezes,
blow!

Ye softening dews, ye tender showers, descend!
And temper all, thou world-reviving sun,
Into the perfect year!

Thomson ("The Seasons").

No. 4.—HYMN.

O grace of God, the Heavenly King,
Who rules the opening year,
To bid each little bird to sing,
Each blossom to appear.

His wisdom through the gloomy days
Of biting wind and cold,
Preserved to us in hidden ways
His treasures manifold.

And now on every tree they shine
And breathe in every flower,
Sweet tokens of a love divine
And never failing power.

O joy, that One Almighty Mind,
Immeasurably wise,
Such countless forms of bliss designed
To bless our human eyes.

There's not a lonely spot of earth
But hath its special grace,
And what one heart of higher birth
Could fail to sing His praise! Amen.

Herbert A. Birks.

PART II.
THE PROMISE OF PLENTY.

No. 5.—RECITATIVE (*Tenor*) AND CHORUS.

Deut. xxviii. 8.—The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses; He shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Ps. lxxxv. 12.—Yea, the Lord shall give that which is good; and our land shall yield her increase.

Joel ii. 21, 22, 24, 26.—Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things.

Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. The floors shall be full of wheat, and ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the Name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt so wondrously with you.

No. 6.—RECITATIVE (*Soprano*) AND
DUET (*Soprano and Tenor*).

Lev. xxvi. 4.—I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase.

Ps. lxxv. 9, 10 (Prayer Book Version).—Thou visitest the earth, and blessest it: Thou makest it very plenteous. The river of God is full of water: Thou preparest their corn, for so Thou providest for the earth.

No. 7.—HYMN.

Though troubles assail, and dangers affright,
Though friends should all fail, and foes all unite,
Yet one thing secures us, whatever betide;
The Scripture assures us, the Lord will provide,

The birds, without barn or storehouse are fed;
From them let us learn to trust for our bread:
His saints what is fitting shall ne'er be denied,
So long as 'tis written, the Lord will provide.

His call we obey, like Abr'am of old,
Not knowing our way; but faith makes us bold,

For though we are strangers, we have a good
guide,

And trust, in all dangers, the Lord will provide.

No strength of our own, or goodness we claim;
Yet since we have known the Saviour's great
Name,

In this our strong tower for safety we hide,
Almighty His power, the Lord will provide.

Amen.
Newton.

PART III.—THE GATHERING IN
AND GLEANING.

No. 8.—INTERMEZZO.

No. 9.—CHORUS.

Ps. lxxv. 11, 13.—Thou crownest the year with Thy goodness. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.

Joel iii. 18.—Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe.

No. 10.—RECITATIVE AND AIR.

Ex. xxiii. 16.—Thou shalt keep the feast of the harvest, the first-fruits of thy labours which thou hast sown in the field.

Our Lord fulfils His promise
That while the earth remains,
The seed-time and the harvest
Shall cease not on its plains.
Now harvest time returneth,
And corn o'erspreads the fields;
The seed in patience scatter'd,
A rich abundance yields.

And hither come the reapers
To gather in the sheaves;
While soon each barn and storehouse
The precious grain receives.
Thus all, who by His precepts
In love and faith are led,
The fruitful land shall dwell in,
And from its stores be fed.

W. West.

No. 11.—RECITATIVE AND AIR.—*Soprano*.

Lev. xix. 9, 10.—When ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not gather the gleanings, thou shalt leave them for the poor.

Psa. cxlv. 9, 15, 16.—The Lord is good to all : and His tender mercies are over all His works. The eyes of all wait upon Thee ; and Thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest Thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.

No. 12.—HYMN.

Sing to the Lord of harvest,
Sing songs of love and praise ;
With joyful hearts and voices
Your hallelujahs raise :
By Him the rolling seasons
In fruitful order move,
Sing to the Lord of harvest
A song of happy love.

By Him the clouds drop fatness,
The deserts bloom and spring,
The hills leap up in gladness,
The valleys laugh and sing :
He filleth with His fulness
All things with large increase,
He crowns the year with goodness,
With plenty and with peace.

Heap on His sacred altar
The gifts His goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest,
The souls He died to save :
Your hearts lay down before Him,
When at His feet ye fall,
And with your lives adore Him,
Who gave His life for all. Amen.

J. B. Monsell.

EPILOGUE.

CHORUS AND DUET (*Soprano and Tenor*).

Psa. lxvi. 1, 2, 3, 4 (Prayer Book Version).—O be joyful in God, all ye lands : sing praises unto the honour of His Name ; make His praise to be glorious. Say unto God, O how wonderful art Thou in Thy works. For all the world shall worship Thee : sing of Thee and praise Thy Name. O come hither, and behold the works of God : how wonderful He is in His doing toward the children of men.

Psa. civ. 24 (Prayer Book Version).—O Lord, how manifold are Thy works : in wisdom hast Thou made them all ; the earth is full of Thy riches.

O be joyful . . . sing of Thee and praise Thy Name.

DOXOLOGY.

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow ;
Praise Him, all creatures here below ;
Praise Him above, Angelic host ;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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SEED-TIME AND HARVEST.

PROLOGUE.

CHORAL RECIT. THE LORD SAID.

John E. West.

Andante maestoso. 3/4.

TENORS
&
BASSES.

ACCOMP.

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The Lord said "While the earth re-

-main - eth, seed - time and har - vest, and cold and heat,

and sum - mer and win - ter, and day and night shall not

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