30. ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

Words by C.F. ALEXANDER

H. J. GAUNTLETT
harmonized by A. H. MANN

SOPRANO
ALTO

1. Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed,
   Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for his bed;

2. He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of all,
   And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall;

3. And through all his wondrous childhood
   He would honour and obey,
   Love and watch the lowly maiden,
   In whose gentle arms he lay:
   Christian children all must be
   Mild, obedient, good as he.

4. For he is our childhood's pattern,
   Day by day like us he grew,
   He was little, weak, and helpless,
   Tears and smiles like us he knew:
   And he feeleth for our sadness,
   And he shareth in our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see him,
   Through his own redeeming love,
   For that child so dear and gentle
   Is our Lord in heaven above;
   And he leads his children on
   To the place where he is gone.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
   With the oxen standing by,
   We shall see him; but in heaven,
   Set at God's right hand on high;
   When like stars his children crowned
   All in white shall wait around.

Harmonization reprinted by permission of Novello & Co. Ltd.