

John Milton,
"Altered by the Rev. Mr. Gardner"
66. 10. 66. 10.

Auspicious Morn

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E Major
Oliver Holden, 1800

Treble
Tenor
Bass

1. No war or bat-tle sound Was heard the world a - round; No hos tile chiefs to fur-ious His reign of peace up-com-bat ran; But peace ful was the night in which the prince of light on the world be - gan, His reign of peace up - on the earth be - gan.

2. The shepherds on the lawn,
Before the point of dawn,
In social circle sat, while all around
The gentle fleecy brood
Or cropped the flowery food,
Or slept, or sported on the verdant ground.

3. When lo! With ravished ears,
Each swain delighted hears
Sweet music, offspring of no mortal hand;
Divinely warbled voice
Answering the stringed noise,
With blissful rapture charmed the listening band.

4. They saw a glorious light,
Burst on their wondering sight,
Harping in solemn choir, in robes arrayed
The helmed cherubim
And sworded seraphim
Are seen in glittering ranks with wings displayed.

5. Sounds of so sweet a tone
Before were never known,
But when of old the sons of morning sung,
When God disposed in air
Each constellation fair,
And the well-balanced world on hinges hung.

6. Hail, hail, auspicious morn!
The Savior Christ is born;
Such was the immortal seraph's song sublime!
Glory to God in heaven!
To man sweet peace be given,
Sweet peace and friendship to the end of time!