

Behold a little child

John Goss, 1874

Arthur's Seat
66.66.88

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody in the treble clef begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a dotted quarter note A4, and then a series of eighth notes. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with quarter and eighth notes. A measure number '5' is placed above the final measure of this system.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It features the same two-staff format and key signature. The melody in the treble clef continues with various note values, including dotted notes and eighth notes. The bass line remains accompanimental. A measure number '10' is placed above the final measure of this system.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece. It maintains the two-staff format and key signature. The melody in the treble clef ends with a series of quarter notes. The bass line also concludes with quarter notes. A measure number '15' is placed above the final measure of this system.

Behold a little child, laid in a manger bed;
The wintry blasts blow wild around His infant head;
But who is this so lowly laid?
'Tis He by whom the worlds were made.

Alas! in what poor state the Son of God is seen;
Why did the Lord so great choose out a home so mean?
That we may learn from pride to flee,
And to follow His humility.

Where Joseph plies his trade, lo, Jesus labors, too;
The hands that all things made an earthly craft pursue,
That weary men in Him may rest,
And faithful toil through Him be blessed.

Among the doctors see the Boy so full of grace;
Say, wherefore taketh He the scholar's lowly place?
That children all, with reverence meet,
May sit and learn at Jesus' feet.

Christ, once Thyself a boy, our childhood Guard
and Guide;
Be Thou its Light and Joy, and still with us abide,
That Thy dear love, so great and free,
May draw us evermore to Thee.

William W. How