

Bright o'er Bethlehem's Lowly Mangers

John Anketell, 1889.

Gerard Cobb, 1860.

Bright o'er Bethlehem's lowly mangers,  
Beamed a new and lustrous star,  
Guiding by its light the strangers  
From their Orient land afar;  
Where beneath its silver shining  
Lay a fair and wondrous child,  
God and man in one combining,  
Born of virgin undefiled.

Then, the midnight silence breaking,  
Sages from a distant land  
Came, their humble homage making,  
Priceless offerings in their hand  
To the King of earth and Heaven,  
To that fair and holy Child,  
Man's atoning Savior given,  
Born of virgin undefiled.

Gold they offer, rich in splendor,  
Fitting tribute of a king;  
Frankincense they humbly render  
To their God, whom angels sing;  
But of all their gifts undying  
Myrrh sheds forth a sweet perfume,  
For it tells of Jesus lying  
Silent in His rock-bound tomb.

Lord, we haste to Bethlehem going  
With our gold of fervent love;  
Offer myrrh, repentance showing;  
Incense bear to God above;  
Who, beneath the star's soft shining,  
Cradled lay, a heavenly Child,  
God and man in one combining,  
Born of virgin undefiled.