

On Judah's Plains as Shepherds Sat

Anonymous.

William Bradbury, 1867.

On Judah's plains as shepherds sat,

Watching their flocks by night,

The angel of the Lord appeared,

Clad in celestial light.

Awe struck the vision they regard,

Appalled with trembling fear;

When thus a cherub voice divine

Breathed sweetly on their ear.

Shepherds of Judah! cease your fears,

And calm your troubled mind;

Glad tidings of great joy I bring

To you and all mankind.

This day almighty Love fulfills

Its great eternal Word;

This day is born in Bethlehem

A Savior, Christ the Lord.

"There shall you find the heavenly Babe

In humblest weeds arrayed;

All meanly wrapped in swaddling clothes

And in a manger laid."

He ceased, and sudden all around

Appeared a radiant throng

Of angels, praising God, and thus

Warbling their choral song.

"Glory to God, from whom on high

All gracious mercies flow!

Who sends His Heav'n descended Peace

To dwell with man below."