

# Did sweeter sounds adorn my flowing tongue

Text: Matthew Prior,  
on I Corinthians, chapter 13

HYMN. (Prior.) P.M.

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Did swee - ter sounds a - dorn my flow - ing tongue Than ev - er  
 And had I pow'r to give that know-ledge birth, In all the  
 Or had I faith like that which Is - rael saw When Mo - ses  
 Those spee - ches would send up un - heed - ed pray'r, That scorn of  
 Cha - ri - ty, de - cent, mo - dest, ea - sy, kind, Sof - tens the

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6

man pro-nounc'd, or an - gels sung; Had I all know - ledge,  
 speech - es of the babb - ling earth; Did Sha-drach's zeal my  
 gave them mi - ra - cles and law; Yet, gra - cious cha - ri -  
 life would be but wild de - spair, A cym - bal's sound were  
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## Did sweeter sounds adorn my flowing tongue (William Mather)

11

hu - man and di - vine, That thought can reach, or sci - ence can de - fine;  
 glow - ing breast in - spire To wea - ry tor - tures, and re - jice in fire;  
 ty, in - dul - gent guest, Were not thy pow'r ex - er - ted in my breast,  
 bet - ter than my voice, My faith were form, my e - lo - quence were noise.  
 gen - tle hand to guide Bet - wixt vile shame and ar - bi - tra - ry pride.

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## Notes:

The parts are identified in the source as Treble - Counter - Tenor - Bass - Organ or Piano Forte. The Counter and Tenor parts are given in the alto and tenor clefs respectively. The keyboard accompaniment part, which is given in full in the source as well as having bass figuring, doubles the voices, and has been omitted from this edition. The first verse only of the text is underlaid in the original, with the other four verses printed after the music: the word 'form' in the last line of the fourth verse is printed in the source as 'from'. The A in the treble part on beat 2 of bar 13 is printed in the source as a small grace note and has been editorially expanded.