

Middlebury

Charles Wesley, 1767

669. 669.

Transcribed from *The Sacred Harp*, 1911.

A Major

Anonymous folk hymn, ca. 1800

Arranged by R. D. Humphreys, 1820

Alto by Anonymous, 1911

Tr. 1. Come away to the skies, My beloved a - rise, And rejoice on the day thou wast born, On the festival day Come ex-ul-ting a - way, To thy heavenly country re - turn.
2. We have laid up our love And treasure a -bove, Though our bodies continue be - low; The redeemed of the Lord, We remember his word, And with singing to Zi - on we go.

A. 3. With thanks we approve The design of thy love Which hath joined us in Jesus his name, So united in heart, That we never can part, Till we meet at the feast of the Lamb.
4. There, there at his seat We shall suddenly meet, And be parted in bo - dy no more, We shall sing to our lyres With the heavenly choirs, And our Savior in glory a - dore.

T. 5. Hal-le-lu-jah we sing To our Father and King, And his rapturous praises re - peat; To the Lamb that was slain Hal -le -lu -jah a -gain Sing all heaven, and fall at his feet.
6. In assurance of hope We to Jesus look up, Till his banner unfurled in the air From our grave we doth see, And cry out, It is he! And fly up to acknowledge him there!

B.

A folk hymn from early 19th century America, perhaps deriving from a folk song or dance. Humphreys wrote a three part arrangement (Treble-Tenor-Bass) in shapenote form, Moore added a few "choosing-notes" to Humphreys, and Walker reprinted Moore's three-voice version. Walker's version was included in *The Sacred Harp* in 1844 and following editions up to 1911; in 1911 it appears with an Alto part by some arranger. In 1848, William Hauser added a second Treble part to Moore's version, with the second stanza of Wesley's hymn. Words by Charles Wesley, 1767, written for his wife's birthday. Most stanzas are 669.669. but others vary to 659.669. and 569.669.