

To my friend The Rev. HARCOURT B. S. FOWLER, Elmley Castle, Worcestershire

I sing the Birth

CAROL

(AN HYMN ON THE NATIVITY OF MY SAVIOUR)

Words by BEN JONSON
(with *Alleluias* added)

Music by EDWARD ELGAR

LONDON: NOVELLO AND COMPANY, LIMITED

Allegretto
mf

SOPRANO
Al . . . le . lu . ia! . . . *pp*

ALTO
Al . . . le . lu . ia! . . . *pp*

TENOR
* QUASI SOLO *mf legato*
I sing the birth was

BASS
mf . . . le . lu . ia! . . . *pp*

(For practice only)

Allegretto. ♩ = circa 120
mf . . . *pp*
mf

born to-night, The au - thor both of life and light; The an - gels so did

* These passages should be sung in a very free manner, without any rigid adherence to *tempo*. They may be taken by Solo voices if desired.

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I SING THE BIRTH

a tempo
p Al . . . le - lu - ia! *pp*
p Al . . . le - lu - ia! *QUASI SOLO* *mf* And like the rav - ish'd
sound it. *p* Al . . . le - lu - ia! *pp*
a tempo *mf*

rit.
shap - herds said, Who saw the light, and were a - fraid, Yet search'd, and true they
rit.

a tempo
p Al . . . le - lu - ia! *pp*
found it. *p* Al . . . le - lu - ia! *pp* *QUASI SOLO* *mf*
a tempo Al . . . le - lu - ia! The Son of God, Th'E .

I SING THE BIRTH

allargando

- ter - nal King, That did us all sal - va - tion bring, And freed the soul from
allargando

a tempo

Al - - - le - lu - ia! He Whom the whole world
Al - - - le - lu - ia! He Whom the whole world
A - - - le - lu - ia! He Whom the whole world
dan - ger; He Whom the whole world

a tempo

could not take, The Word, which heav'n and earth did make, Was now laid in a
could not take, The Word, which heav'n and earth did make, Was now laid in a
could not take, The Word, which heav'n and earth did make, Was now laid in a
could not take, The Word, which heav'n and earth did make, Was now laid in a

I SING THE BIRTH

man - ger. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

man - ger. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

man - ger. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

man - ger. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

p *pp* *rit. dim.* *dim.* *rit.* *dim.*

Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!

QUASI SOLO *mf* The Fa - ther's wis - dom

Al - le - lu - ia!

a tempo *mf* *pp* *mf*

will'd it so, The Son's o - be - dience knew no No, Both wills were in one

rit. *rit.*

I SING THE BIRTH

p a tempo
Al . . . le . lu . ia!
pp
QUASI SOLO
p Al . . . le . lu . ia! And as that wis - dom
sta - ture ;
p Al . . . le . lu . ia!
a tempo
p *mf*
pp

rit.
had de - creed, The Word was now made flesh in - deed, And took on Him our
dim.
rit.
dim.

a tempo
p Al . . . le . lu . ia!
pp
na - ture.
p Al . . . le . lu . ia!
pp
QUASI SOLO
mf
a tempo
Al . . . le . lu . ia! What com - fort by Him
pp
p *mf*

I SING THE BIRTH

do we win, Who made Him - self the price of sin, To make us heirs of

cres.

Al - - - le - lu - ia! To see this Babe, all

Al - - - le - lu - ia! To see this Babe, all

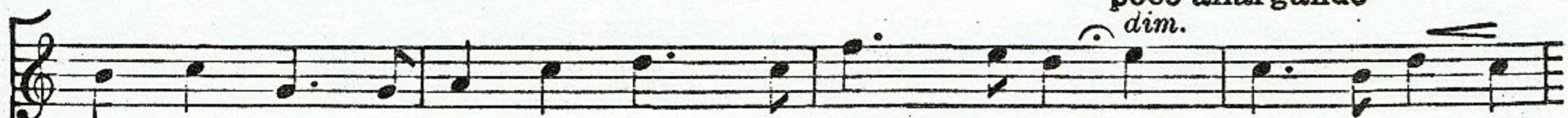
Al - - - le - lu - ia! To see this Babe, all..

f glo - ry! . . . To see this Babe, all

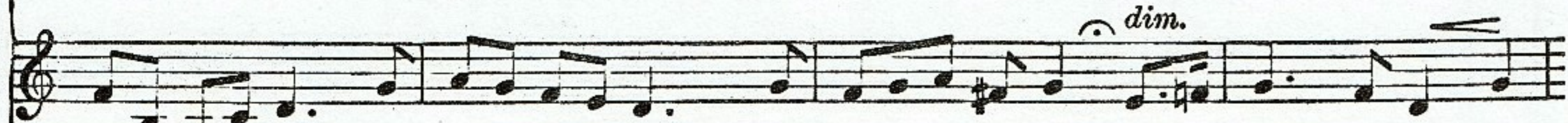
I SING THE BIRTH

poco allargando

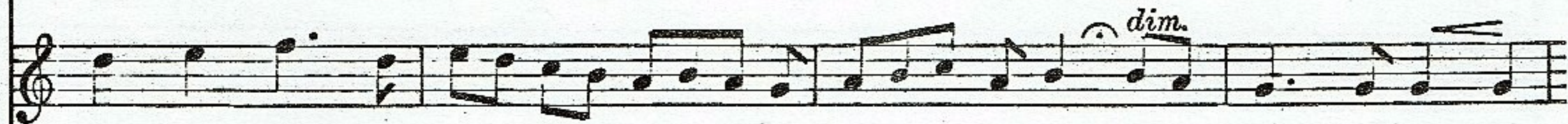
dim.



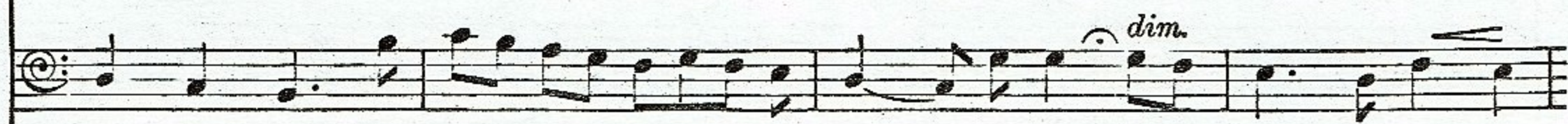
in - no - cence, A mar - tyr born in our de-fence; Can man for-get this



in - no - cence, A mar - tyr born in our . . de-fence; Can man for-get this



in - no - cence, A mar - tyr born . . in our . . de-fence; Can man for-get this



in - no - cence, A mar - tyr born . . in our . . de-fence; Can man for-get this

poco allargando

dim.



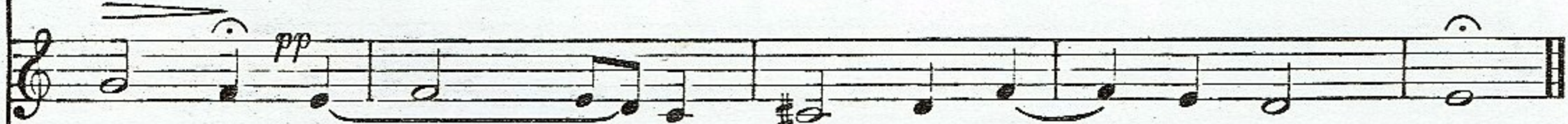
più lento

pp

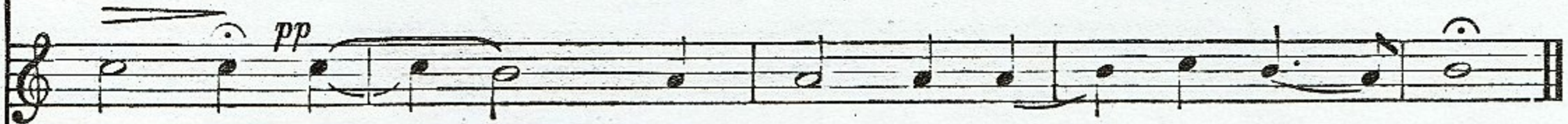
rit.



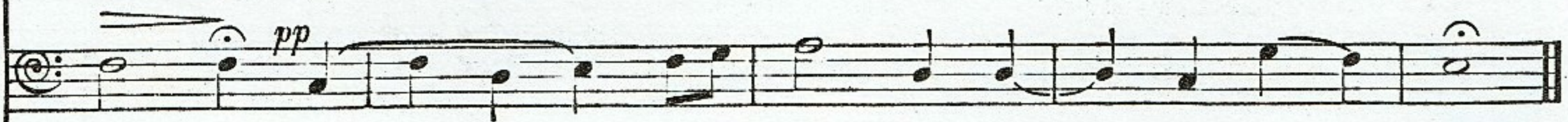
sto - ry? Al . . . le - lu - ia, Al . . le - lu - ia!



sto - ry? Al . . . le - lu - ia, Al . . le - lu - ia!



sto - ry? Al . . . le - lu - ia, Al . . le - lu - ia!



sto - ry? Al . . . le - lu - ia, Al . . le - lu - ia!

più lento

pp

rit.

