O sing unto the Lord a new song

Verse Anthem for four voices, chorus, strings and organ

HENRY PURCELL Edited by WATKINS SHAW

Psalm xevi



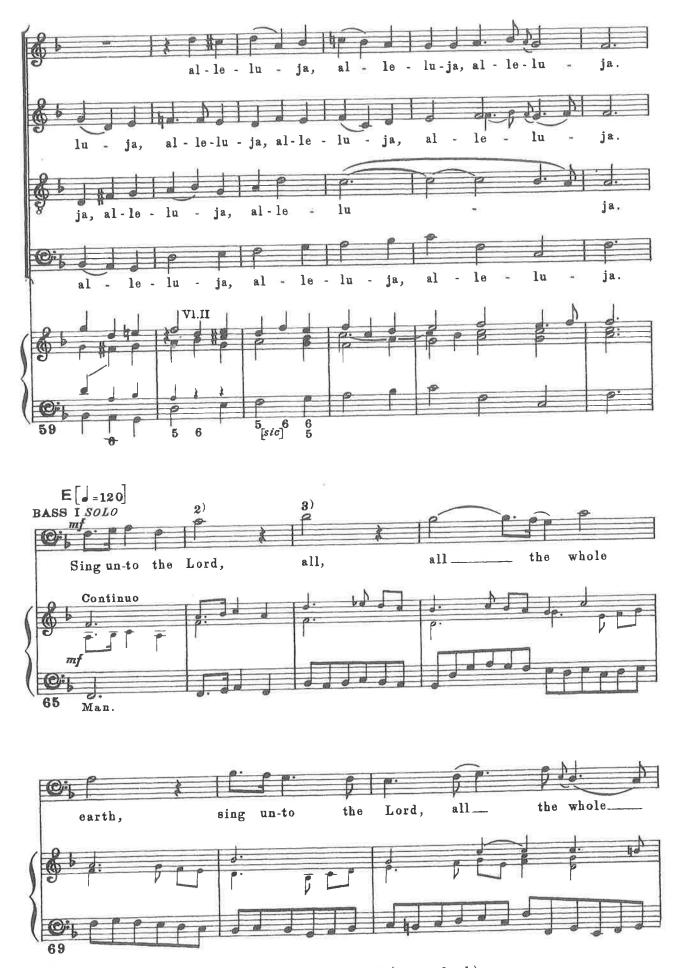
1) Bar 4. The notes with upward stems are minims in the original; so also in bar 11.





+ C and D begin at this point, with the time-signature C

* Originally with notes twice the present face value, and with time-signature 2 in A and D, C 3i in C. B presumably had 2.



2) and 3) Bars 66-67. Both notes dotted minims in D (Bassus book).





4) Bar 84, Alto. Dotted crotchet, quaver in A and D.



* Time-signature in C and D, ϕ ; doubtful in A.

⁵⁾ Bar 112, alto. e' in D.





6) Bar 122, organ. C and D (organ book) give a root-position chord in short score, without the suspension.



- Bar 128, alto. C and D (organ book) give be' in short score; D (contra-tenor book) agrees with A in giving be'.
- 8) Bar 131, organ. These chords give the pitch of the string parts in the full score. They are placed an octave higher in C and D (organ book). See also bars 132-3, 135-6, and 137.



9) Bar 143. Two crotchets, B and D.



^{*} Time-signature in A, C and D, $\frac{3}{2}$ with notes twice the present face-value. In shewing 3i, the Purcell Society Edition is presumably following B.

¹⁰⁾ Bar 161 (alto). Two quavers in D (contra-tenor book) but not in D (organ book).



- 11) Bar 164, alto. In D (contra-tenor book) the rhythm is equivalent to two quavers, crotchet in this notation.
- 12) Bar 167, organ. C has f' crotchet e' minim as the alto part of the organ short score.



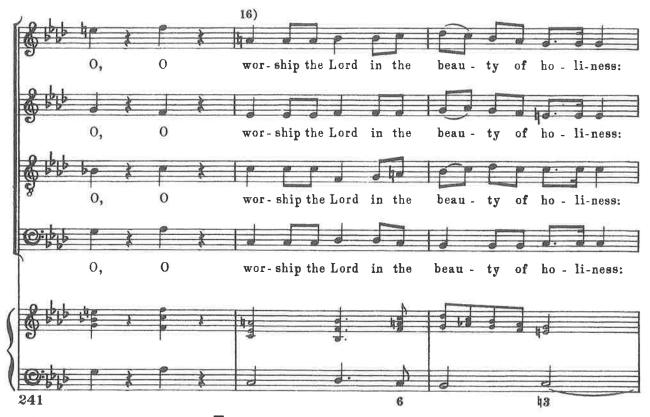


13) Bar 197, alto. Dotted minim in A, (presumably also B).



*Time-signature C in A, ¢ in C and D. Key-signature of three flats, D's being flattened as required in the sources.





- 14) Bar 238, bass I. 3rd beat 🎵 in A.
- 15) Bar 238, bass I. 4th beat, no flat to d'in A, B or D (bass book); final quaver, d'in D (bass book).
- 16) Bar 242, treble. No natural in A, nor, apparently, in Bartleman's copy used by Vincent Novello. It is quite clear in C, D (medius book) and D (organ book). According to the Purcell Society Edition, the natural is found in B.



247 #3 #3

17) Bar 244, organ. Rest in C and D (organ book).



- * No fresh time-signature in A and D; C gives C.
- 18) Bar 251, treble. No flat to d' in D (medius book).



Man.



+ Purcell has 'sure' for 'fast' throughout.







* Time signature 3 in A,C, and D with notes twice the face value.



19) Bar 300. Dotted minim in all sources, in all parts except tenor.







SOURCES

A manuscript score belonging to H. M. The Queen (R.M. 20 h. 8). This was Purcell's own album, into which this anthem was copied during the composer's lifetime by a helper who does not appear to have been a particularly musicianly copyist. The Purcell Society edition, vol. XVII, p.vii, states that this copy has a note at the end, 'Composed by Mr Purcell 1688', but the present editor cannot see it. (See **B** below.)

This MS score has been used as the basis of this present edition by gracious permission of H. M. Queen Elizabeth II.

- **B** A manuscript score which, when Mr G. E. P. Arkwright consulted it for the Purcell Society edition in 1907, belonged to Mr W. Kennedy Gostling, descendant of the Rev. John Gostling, Gentleman of the Chapel Royal in Purcell's day. This MS was afterwards sold through Messrs Sotheby, and the present owner refuses to allow his name to be divulged and to permit access to the MS. Our only knowledge of its text is derived from the Purcell Society edition, vol. XVII. It may well be that the note about the date of this anthem mentioned under **A** above refers to **B**. (See Gerald Cooper, 'The Chronology of Purcell's Works' in the *Musical Times*, August 1942, p.237.)
- C A manuscript outline short score for organ in the handwriting of John Blow, in the Henry Watson Music Library, Manchester. The lettering on the binding of this volume, ascribing the writing to Purcell himself, is now recognized to be at fault.
- **D** Tenbury MSS 1176-82. Decani Medius, Cantoris Contratenor, Cantoris Tenor and Cantoris Bass part-books, with an outline short score for organ, from the library of John Gostling.

Neither C nor D provides any text for the symphonies (bars 1-44, 86-110, 198-234); nor do they hint at the string parts of the vocal movements, save in bars 131-7, 146-7, and 150-151.

The MS score belonging successively to James Bartleman (1769-1821) and Vincent Novello, which formed the basis of Novello's edition in 'Purcell's Sacred Music', 1826-32, cannot now be traced. It seems not to have included any string parts.

EDITORIAL PRACTICE

All indications of style and speed are editorial, except (a) 'soft' from $\bf A$ and $\bf D$ in bar 196; (b) 'loud' and 'soft' from $\bf A$ in bars 214-232; (c) the directions f and mp at bars 146-156, which in the organ scores $\bf C$ and $\bf D$ are marked 'ecco organ' [R.H.] and 'soft organ' [L.H.] in bars 146-7 and 150-51, with the direction 'loud' against the basso continuo in bars 148 and 152. Surprisingly, the string chords in bar 131 are marked 'soft' in $\bf A$.

In certain passages the note-values have been reduced, as described in footnotes. The occasional irregularity of barring in the triple-time movements is editorial, to reveal the altered grouping of the accents.

The shakes at bar 189 are found in **A** and **D**. Those in the organ part at bars 147 and 151 are found in **C** and **D**. Other shakes are editorial. Certain suggested appoggiature and graces have been introduced into the voice parts by the editor, and these are shewn in small notes. An appoggiatura takes the value of the note used from the capital note to which it is slurred. The graces, on the other hand, are intended to be substituted for the normal-size notes of the basic text.



Wherever the patterns J. . A and A. A occur, the sources have J. I and A respectively (allowing for any reduction in note-values). The only exceptions are in bars 132-3 and 136-7.

The composite figuring of the sources has been reproduced. A contributes two figurings only, neither of which is found in **C** or **D**(bars 48 and 56); all other figures are found in both **C** and **D**, except those in italic, which are from **C** only, and those in brackets, which are from **D** only.

Although this is a practical and not a critical edition, the more important variants are mentioned in footnotes, while obvious errors are silently corrected. The following requires fuller explanation. In A—and presumably B—the violin parts at bars 134 and 137 stand thus:





In our text, in which the accompaniment is designed for the organ, a hint has been taken from the organ books C and D, which read:





THE ORGAN PART

In passages marked 'organ continuo' the editor has provided a simple realization of the basso continuo in small notes. Following the practice of the period, he has used his discretion here and there as to whether a note should be sustained or revived and as to the octave in which the bass is taken. In passages marked 'organ score' the editor has arranged the string parts. Very occasionally, where the texture does not transfer well to the keyboard, the parts have been redistributed without alteration to the harmony. Small notes in the 'organ score' sections supply, in a limited way, the filling-out of the basso continuo.

1956 H.W.S.

