

**Harriet Auber, 1773-1862.**

Born: October 4, 1773, Spitalfields, Stepney, Middlesex, England.

Died: January 20, 1862, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, England.

Buried: Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, England.

Her actual name was Henriette, but she was known as Harriet. Daughter of Rector James Auber of London, and member of the Anglican church. For most of her life, she lived at Broxbourne and Hoddesdon.

Harriet Auber was co-editor with H. Harvey of the collection *The Spirit of the Psalms* in 1829. However, neither her name nor Harvey's appear therein. The collection's Preface is signed "A Clergyman of the Church of England," and its Dedication to the Archbishop of Canterbury is simply signed "The Editor." The attributions of Harvey and Auber have been developed from external evidence. (1) In large part the 1829 collection contained paraphrases of Psalms that were submitted by "Clergymen of the Church of England."

To be sure, Harriet Auber had a hand in editing many of those Psalm paraphrases. For example, Psalm 150 on page 137, is subtitled Merrick. Its first line reads: **Praise, O praise, the Name Divine**. The first line and remainder of the text differ widely from Psalm 150 in *The Holy Bible*, KJV. Merrick refers to a little-known clergyman, Rev. John M. Merrick, and not the hymn tune **Merrick**. In hymnals with music, Rev. Merrick's words were sung to the hymn tune **Nuremberg**, which has a Meter of 7.7.7.7. The hymn tune **Merrick** has a Meter of 8.7.8.7.4.4.7. Moreover it appears that only stanzas 1 and 5 are the true words of Rev. Merrick, there being three stanzas added over time by Auber and other editors.

In 1860, Ebenezer Towner Root, younger brother of George Frederick Root, made a new arrangement of music by Franz Wilhelm Abt, 1819-1885. The words chosen to accompany E.T. Root's hymn tune **Chauncey** were the un-attributed words of Rev. John M. Merrick. What music of Abt was Root's inspiration remains unknown. Abt is known to have composed only three surviving hymn tunes, and none have the requisite Meter. It is believed that Root named his hymn tune as a tribute to Rev. Chauncey Marvin Cady (1824-1889 or 1892), his partner in the firm of Root & Cady.

See below on page 2 for her hymns and poems.

## Hymns

Arise, Ye People, and Adore.  
 As Thy Chosen People, Lord.  
 Bright Was the Guiding Star That Led.  
 Can Guilty Man Indeed Believe?  
 Delightful Is the Task to Sing.  
 Ere Mountains Reared Their Forms Sublime.  
 Father of Spirits, Nature's God.  
 Great God, Wert Thou Extreme to Mark.  
Hail! All Hail, the Joyful Morn. Shown beginning with Angels Bending from the Sky. Words: Harriet Auber (1773-1862), 1839. Music: Rev. Chauncey Marvin Cady, 1824-1889 or 1892. Hymn Tune: Christmas Hymn. 7.7.7.7.D. In ***The Manual of Praise***, p. 107, #164. (Oberlin, Ohio: E.J. Goodrich. 1889.)  
 Hail, Gracious Source of Every Good.  
 Hasten, Lord, the Glorious Time.  
 How Blest Are They Who Daily Prove.  
 How Blest the Children of the Lord.  
 Jehovah Reigns, O Earth, Rejoice.  
 Jehovah, Great and Awful Name.  
 Jesus, Lord, to Thee We Sing.  
 O All Ye Lands, Rejoice in God.  
 O God Our Strength, to Thee Our Song.  
 O Praise Our Great and Gracious Lord.  
 O Thou Whom Heaven's Bright Host Revere.  
 On Thy Church, O Power Divine.  
 Our Blest Redeemer, ere He Breathed.  
 Praise the Lord, Our Mighty King.  
Praise, O Praise, the Name Divine. Words: Rev. John M. Merrick. Paraphrase of Psalm 150. Altered: Harriet Auber, 1829. Music: Ebenezer Towner Root, 1822-After 1892. Hymn Tune: ***Chauncey***. 7.7.7.7. In ***The Diapason: A Collection of Church Music. To Which Aare Prefixed a New and Comprehensive View of "Music And Its Notation;" Exercises for Reading Music, and Vocal Training; Songs, Part-Songs, Rounds, etc. The Whole Arranged and Adapted for Choirs, Singing Schools, Musical Conventions and Social Gatherings.*** Edited by George F. Root. Page 219b. (New York: Mason Brothers; Boston: Mason & Hamlin; Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott & Co.; Cincinnati: W.B. Smith & Co.; Chicago: Root & Cady. Electrotyped by Smith & McDougal, 82 & 84 Beekman St., NY. Printed by C.A. Alford, 15 Vandewater St. June 1860.)  
 Spirit of Peace, Who as a [Celestial] Dove.  
 Sweet Is the Work, O Lord.  
 That Thou, O Lord, Art Ever Nigh.  
 The Lord, Who Hath Redeemed Our Souls.  
 Thou by Whose Strength the Mountains Stand.  
 Vainly Through the Night the Ranger.  
 When Dangers Press and Fears Invade.  
 Who, O Lord, When Life Is O'er.  
 Whom Have We, Lord, in Heaven But Thee.  
 Wide, Ye Heavenly Gates, Unfold.  
 With Hearts in Love Abounding.  
With Joy We Hail the Sacred Day. Words: Harriet Auber (1773-1862), 1829. Music: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1816-1868. In ***Fresh Laurels for the Sabbath School.*** (New York: Biglow & Main. 1867.)

See below on page 3 for sources.

## Sources:

1) Clergyman of the Church of England. [Editors H. Harvey; Harriet Auber.] *The Spirit of the Psalms, or A Compressed Version of Select Portions of the Psalms of David, Adapted to Christian Worship*, Page 137. (London: T. Cadell, Strand; and C & J Rivington, Waterloo Place and St. Paul's Church Yard. 1829.)

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Charles S. Nutter and Wilbur F. Tillet. *The Hymns and Hymn Writers of the Church*, p. 388. (New York: The Methodist Book Concern. 1911.)

Charles S. Robinson. *Annotations upon Popular Hymns*, p. 19. 1893.