

The First Noel

THE FIRST NOWELL (Irregular)

Traditional English carol

from William Sandys' *Christmas Carols, Ancient and Modern*, 1833

English carol from Davies Gilbert's

Some Ancient Christmas Carols, 1823

1. The first No - el the an - gel did say Was to
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin - ing
 3. And by the light of that same star Three
 4. This star drew nigh to the north - west, O'er
 5. Then en - tered in those Wise Men three, Full
 6. Then let us all with one ac - cord Sing

cer - tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; In fields where
 in the east, be - yond them far; And to the
 Wise Men came from coun - try far; To seek for a
 Beth - le - hem it took its rest; And there it
 rev - 'rent - ly up - on their knee, And of - fered
 prais - es to our heav'n - ly Lord, That hath made

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, On a cold win - ter's night that
 earth it gave great light, And so it con - tin - ued both
 King was their in - tent, And to fol - low the star wher -
 did both stop and stay, Right o - ver the place where
 there, in His pres - ence, Their gold and myrrh and
 heav'n and earth of naught, And with His blood man -

CHRISTMAS

was so deep.
day and night.
ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No - el, No -
Je - sus lay.
frank - in - cense.
kind hath bought.

The first system of the musical score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a half note G4, followed by a half note A4, then a half note B4, and a half note G4. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) starts with a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, then a half note B2, and a half note G2. The lyrics are: 'was so deep. day and night. ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No - el, No -'. The piano part has a circled first measure.

el, Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

The second system of the musical score continues the melody. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a half note G4, followed by a half note A4, then a half note B4, and a half note G4. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) starts with a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, then a half note B2, and a half note G2. The lyrics are: 'el, Born is the King of Is - ra - el!'. The piano part has a circled first measure.