It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

Still thro' the cloven skies they come With peaceful wings unfurled, And still their heavenly music floats O'er all the weary world.

Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hov'ring wing,"

And ever o'er its Babel sounds The blessed angels sing.

For lo! the days are hast'ning on, By prophet bards foretold, When with the ever-circling years Comes' round the age of gold, When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling, And the whole world send back the song Which now the angels sing.