



A Song of Labor

B. F. Griffeth
(1852-?)

Benjamin F. Griffeth (1852-?) was born in Ohio. He taught vocal music in various locations including Chrisman, Illinois, in Iowa, and at Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio. He became a pastor in the Baptist Church and served at churches in Medina and Granville, Ohio, and was pastor at West End Baptist Church and West Lynchburg Baptist Church in Virginia. His wife Alice also wrote music.

Whom shall we call our heroes?
To whom our praises sing?
The pampered child of fortune?
The titled lord or king?
They live by other's labor,
Take all and nothing give;
The noblest types of manhood,
Are they who work to live.

*Then honor to our workmen,
Our hardy sons of toil;
The heroes of the workshop,
And monarchs of the soil!*

For many barren ages,
Earth hid her treasures deep;
And all her giant forces
Seemed bound as in a sleep.
Then labor's "Anvil Chorus"
Broke on the startled air,
And lo! the earth in rapture
Laid all her treasures bare.

The Grand Almighty Builder,
Who fashioned out this earth,
Hath tamped his seal of honor
On labor, from her birth.
In every angel flower
That blossoms from the sod,
Behold, the master touches
The handiwork of God!

Henry Clay Preuss

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B. F. Griffeth

Maestoso

S
Whom shall we call our he - roes? To whom our prais - es sing? _____ The

A
Whom shall we call our he - roes? To whom our prais - es sing? _____ The

T
Whom shall we call our he - roes? To whom our prais - es sing? _____ The

B
Whom shall we call our he - roes? To whom our prais - es sing? _____ The

6
S
pam - pered child of for - tune? The ti - tled lord _____ or king? _____ They

A
pam - pered child of for - tune? The ti - tled lord _____ or king? _____ They

T
pam - pered child of for - tune? The ti - tled lord _____ or king? _____ They

B
pam - pered child of for - tune? The ti - tled lord _____ or king? _____ They

10
S
live by oth - er's la - bor, Take all and noth - ing give; _____ The

A
live by oth - er's la - bor, Take all and noth - ing give; _____ The

T
live by oth - er's la - bor, Take all and noth - ing give; _____ The

B
live by oth - er's la - bor, Take all and noth - ing give; _____ The



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S no - blest types — of man - hood, Are they who work — to live. —

A no - blest types of man - hood, Are they who work to live. —

T no - blest types — of man - hood, Are they who work to live. —

B no - blest types of man - hood, Are they who work to live. —

CHORUS

S Then hon - or to our work - men, Our hard - y sons of toil; — The

A Then hon - or to our work - men, Our hard - y sons of toil; — The

T Then hon - or to our work - men, Our hard - y sons of toil; — The

B Then hon - or to our work - men, Our hard - y sons of toil; — The

22

S he - roes of the work - shop, And mon - archs of — the soil! —

A he - roes of the work - shop, And mon - archs of the soil! —

T he - roes of the work - shop, And mon - archs of the soil! —

B he - roes of the work - shop, And mon - archs of the soil! —

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VERSE 2

S For ma - ny bar - ren a - ges, Earth hid her treas - ures deep; _____ And

A For ma - ny bar - ren a - ges, Earth hid her treas - ures deep; _____ And

T For ma - ny bar - ren a - ges, Earth hid her treas - ures deep; _____ And

B For ma - ny bar - ren a - ges, Earth hid her treas - ures deep; _____ And

30
S all her gi - ant forc - es Seemed bound as in _____ a sleep. _____ Then

A all her gi - ant forc - es Seemed bound as in _____ a sleep. _____ Then

T all her gi - ant forc - es Seemed bound as in _____ a sleep. _____ Then

B all her gi - ant forc - es Seemed bound as in _____ a sleep. _____ Then

34
S la - bor's "An - vil Cho - rus" Broke on the star - tled air, _____ And

A la - bor's "An - vil Cho - rus" Broke on the star - tled air, _____ And

T la - bor's "An - vil Cho - rus" Broke on the star - tled air, _____ And

B la - bor's "An - vil Cho - rus" Broke on the star - tled air, _____ And

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38

S lo! the earth in rap - ture Laid all her treas - ures bare. _____

A lo! the earth in rap - ture Laid all her treas - ures bare. _____

T lo! the earth in rap - ture Laid all her treas - ures bare. _____

B lo! the earth in rap - ture Laid all her treas - ures bare. _____

VERSE 3

S The Grand Al - might - y Build - er, Who fash - ioned out this earth, _____ Hath

A The Grand Al - might - y Build - er, Who fash - ioned out this earth, _____ Hath

T The Grand Al - might - y Build - er, Who fash - ioned out this earth, _____ Hath

B The Grand Al - might - y Build - er, Who fash - ioned out this earth, _____ Hath

46

S tamped his seal of hon - or On la - bor, from her birth. _____ In

A tamped his seal of hon - or On la - bor, from her birth. _____ In

T tamped his seal of hon - or On la - bor, from her birth. _____ In

B tamped his seal of hon - or On la - bor, from her birth. _____ In

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50

S ev - 'ry an - gel flow - er That blos - soms from the sod, Be -

A ev - 'ry an - gel flow - er That blos - soms from the sod, Be -

T ev - 'ry an - gel flow - er That blos - soms from the sod, Be -

B ev - 'ry an - gel flow - er That blos - soms from the sod, Be -

54

S hold, the mas - ter touch - es The hand - i - work of God!

A hold, the mas - ter touch - es The hand - i - work of God!

T hold, the mas - ter touch - es The hand - i - work of God!

B hold, the mas - ter touch - es The hand - i - work of God!

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