



Nymphs of air and ancient sea

Henry Smart
(1813-1879)

Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879) was born in London, son of a music publisher, orchestra director and violinist. He declined a commission in the Indian army and planned to work in law, but he gave it up for a musical career. He was organist of Blackburn parish church; St. Giles-without-Cripplegate; St. Luke's, Old Street; and finally of St. Pancras New Church. He was the music editor for *Psalms and Hymns for Divine Worship* (1867), the *Presbyterian Hymnal* (1875), and the hymn book of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. He was a recognized authority on organs and designed many instruments, including those in the City Hall and St. Andrew's Hall in Glasgow, Scotland, and the Town Hall in Leeds. Smart was highly rated as a composer by his contemporaries, especially his organ works and part-songs. His best-known compositions are now probably the hymn tune "Regent Square", commonly sung with the words "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" and "Angels from the Realms of Glory". In the last fifteen years of his life Smart was practically blind. He composed by dictation, primarily to his daughter.

Nymphs of air and ancient sea,
Such the gifts we bring to thee!
Lo! these plumes of rich device,
Pluck'd from birds of paradise!
Lo! these drops of essence rare,
Shook from wand'ring meteor's hair!
Nymphs of air and ancient sea,
Such the gifts we bring to thee!

Take these shells, approach them near,
They shall murmur in thine ear
Tunes that lull the slumbering sea
More than mermaid's harmony!
Take these pearls, no diving-slave
Drags their like from ocean cave,—
Nymphs of air and ancient sea,
Such can only bring to thee.

FRAGMENTS OF THE MASQUE OF GWENDOLEN
Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

Nymphs of air and ancient sea

Henry Smart

Andante

S
Nymphs of air and an - cient sea, ——— Such the gifts we bring to

A
Nymphs of air and an - cient sea, ——— Such the gifts we bring to

T
Nymphs of air and an - cient sea, ——— Such the gifts we bring to

B
Nymphs of air and an - cient sea, ——— Such the gifts we bring to

S
thee! ——— Lo! these plumes of rich de - vice,

A
thee! ——— Lo! these plumes of rich de - vice,

T
thee! ——— Lo! these plumes of rich de - vice,

B
thee! ——— Lo! these plumes of rich de - vice,

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7 *cresc.*

S Pluck'd from birds of par - a-dise! Lo! these drops of es - sence

A Pluck'd from birds of par - a-dise!

T Pluck'd from birds of par - a-dise!

B Pluck'd from birds of par - a-dise!

10

S rare, Shook from wan - d'ring me - teor's hair!

A Lo! these drops of es - sence rare, Shook from wan - d'ring me - teor's

T Lo! these drops of es - sence rare, Shook from wan - d'ring me - teor's

B Lo! these drops of es - sence rare, Shook from wan - d'ring me - teor's

13 *dim.* *p*

S Nymphs of air and an - cient sea, Such the gifts we bring to

A hair! Nymphs of an - cient sea, Such the gifts we bring to

T hair! Nymphs of an - cient sea, Such the gifts we bring to

B hair! Nymphs of an - cient sea, Such the gifts we bring to

Nymphs of air and ancient sea

16

S thee! *f* Nymphs of air *dim.* and an - cient sea, *rall.*

A thee! *f* Nymphs of air *dim.* and an - cient sea, *rall.*

T thee! *f* Nymphs of air *dim.* and an - cient sea, *rall.*

B thee! *f* Nymphs of air *dim.* and an - cient sea, *rall.*

19

S *p* Such the gifts we bring to thee!

A *p* Such the gifts we bring to thee!

T *p* Such the gifts we bring to thee!

B *p* Such the gifts we bring to thee!

21

S *p* Take these shells, ap - proach them near, — They shall mur - mur in thine

A *p* Take these shells, ap - proach them near, They shall mur - mur in thine

T *p* Take these shells, ap - proach them near, They shall mur - mur in thine

B *p* Take these shells, ap - proach them near, They shall mur - mur in thine

Nymphs of air and ancient sea

24

S ear _____ Tunes that lull the slum - bering sea

A ear _____ Tunes that lull the slum - bering sea

T ear Tunes that lull the slum - bering sea

B ear Tunes that lull the slum - bering sea

27

S *cresc.* More than mer - maid's har - mo-ny! Take these pearls, no div - ing -

A *cresc.* More than mer - maid's har - mo-ny!

T *cresc.* More than mer - maid's har - mo-ny!

B *cresc.* More than mer - maid's har - mo-ny!

30

S slave _____ Drags their like from o - cean cave,—

A *cresc.* Take these pearls, no div - ing - slave Drags their like from o - cean

T *cresc.* Take these pearls, no div - ing - slave Drags their like from o - cean

B *cresc.* Take these pearls, no div - ing - slave Drags their like from o - cean

Nymphs of air and ancient sea

33

S Nymphs of air and an - cient sea, ——— Such can on - ly bring to

A cave, — Nymphs of an - cient sea, ——— Such can on - ly bring to

T cave, — Nymphs of an - cient sea, ——— Such can on - ly bring to

B cave, — Nymphs of an - cient sea, ——— Such can on - ly bring to

36

S thee. Nymphs of air ——— and an - cient sea, ———

A thee. Nymphs of air ——— and an - cient sea, ———

T thee. Nymphs of air ——— and an - cient sea, ———

B thee. Nymphs of air ——— and an - cient sea,

39

S Such can on - ly bring to thee.

A Such can on - ly bring to thee.

T Such can on - ly bring to thee.

B Such can on - ly bring to thee.

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