

The Dying Penitent

Samuel Stennett, 1778

86. 86. T. (C. M. T.)

Transcribed from *The Virginia Harmony*, 1831.

B^b Major

James P. Carrell, 1831

Tr. 1. { As on the cross the Savior hung, And wept and bled and died, He poured salvation on a wretch That languished at his side. }
His crimes with inward grief and shame, The pen-i-tent confessed; Then turned his dying eyes to Christ, And thus his prayer addressed: }

T. 2. { Yet quickly from these scenes of woe In triumph thou shalt rise, Burst through the gloomy shades of death, And shine a-bove the skies. }
His prayer the dying Jesus hears, And instantly re-plies, To-day thy parting soul shall be With me in par-a-dise. }

B.

Tr. 1. Je-sus, thou Son and heir of heaven, Thou spotless Lamb of God, I see thee bathed in sweat and tears, And welt'ring in thy blood.

T. 2. A-mid the glories of that world, Dear Savior, think on me; And in the victories of thy death Let me a sharer be.

B.

Probably derived from a folk hymn,
possibly preceded by a folk song.

Edited by B. C. Johnston, 2024

The way the text underlies the music in the 1831 original suggests that both staves were intended to be repeated, but there are no repeat symbols anywhere on the page. On the top staff, stanza one was to be followed by the same music to stanza two; then on the lower staff, stanzas three and four to the repeated music. (Stanzas five and six were printed below, but it is uncertain to which notes they are to be sung.) Perhaps this was done, because the second stanza ends in the middle of a sentence, leading directly to the third.