

Nowell and Nowell

Collected by Cecil Sharpe from Bartle Symons in Cornwall, 1913

Nowell and Nowell the angels did say
While shepherds there in the field did lay
Laying in one night and folding their sheep
A winter's night both cold and deep

And then there did appear a star
To wise men three in country far
And to the earth it gave great light
And there it continued both day and night

The star it shone all in the northwest
O'er Bethlehem city it took its rest
And there it did both stand and stay
Right over the house where our lord lay

There entered in those wise men three
With reverence upon their knee
And offered up in rich potence
Both gold and myrrh and frankincense

Betwixt an ox manger and an ass
There our blessed Messiah was
To save our souls from sin and thrall
He is the redeemer of us all