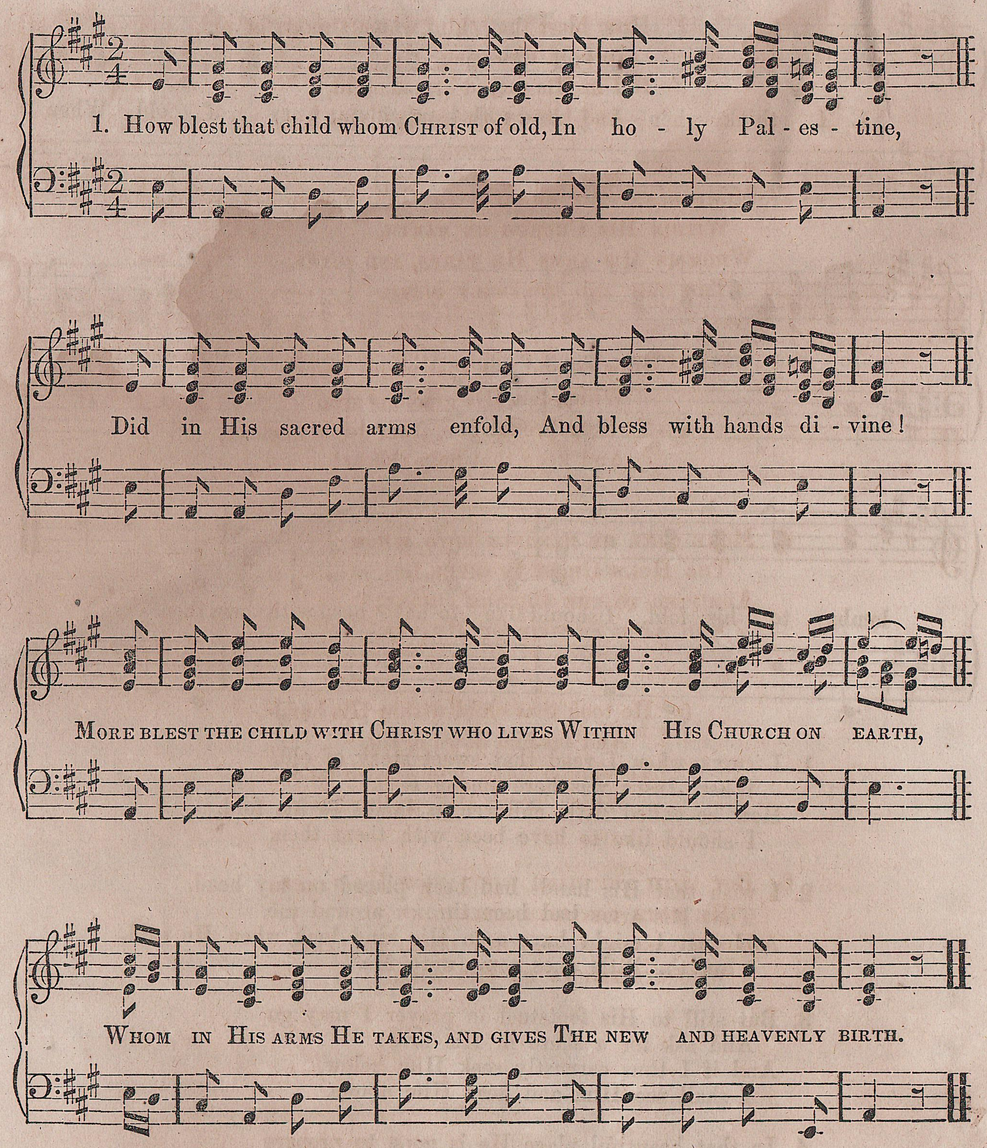
No. xl. How Blest that Child whom Christ of old.



1. How blest that child whom Christ of old,
In holy Palestine,
Did in His sacred arms enfold,
And bless with hands divine!

2. More blest the child with Christ who lives
Within His Church on earth,
Whom in His arms He takes, and gives
The new and heavenly birth.

3. How careful was that child, I ween,
Which felt His gracious arm,
To flee, through life, from deeds unclean,
And keep that holy charm!

4. More care he needeth unto whom
The Holy Ghost is given,
Admitted to the Church's home,
And made an heir of Heaven.

5. He took that child within His hands,
And set him down again,
To wander forth 'mid Jewish lands,
Which 'neath His wrath remain.

6. But with the babe whom now He takes
He doth continue still;
His presence ne'er that child forsakes
Who strives to do His will.