

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM.

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ALL, Mystic Star ! bright in the starry host !
 Light of the world, so long, alas ! was lost.
 O'er Judah shine ; send forth a guiding ray
 To nations all, shall certain point the way
 To Heaven's light that glorious dawns at last
 O'er darkened earth, and of all ages past
 The gloom dispels. Welcome auspicious Star !
 Thy blessed glow o'er Asia's bounds afar,

Past glories all outshines, new power displays
 As destinies it shapes, points out the ways,
 Must knowledge come and sacred truth be won.
 Thou shinest not, blest Star, where deeds are done,
 That war on virtue ; cruelty thy bane,
 Acts tyrannous, curses, all things profane.
 O wondrous Star ! thy light is never given
 When rashly men forsake the ways of Heaven,
 'Mid vice and error, grope their devious way
 Far from thy power and brightest truth astray.

Wise men of old, as sacred writings say,
 In Asia saw thy light and took their way
 To Judah's land. To Israel's Palace high
 As the bold, anxious travellers drew nigh ;
 "True tidings here of Israel's King we'll find ;
 Such knowledge, doubtless, their's who rule mankind."
 They enter in. Lo ! darkness all around.
 Ceased hath the guiding Star of Heaven to shine,
 Refusing with the wicked to combine.
 Well known on high the tyrant's cruel heart ;
 The Sages, warned, with him could have no part.
 Fain would the Monarch have them share his view.
 They, as was meet, then filled with ardour new ;
 "Think'st Thou, fond tyrant, us to lead astray,
 First fruits of the world's conquest, to betray