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THE COMING OF THE BRIDEGROOM.

“ Watchet auf! ruft uns die Stimme.”

The original of the following hymn, of which many versions have been given in German, was a great favourite with the late Prince Consort, and is still cherished affectionately by the Queen in remembrance of him. With its appropriate tune it is deservedly popular in many parts of Germany.

“Wake, arise!” the voice is calling,
 The watcher’s voice on quick ears falling,
 “Jerusalem, awake, arise!
 For the midnight hour is fleeting;”
 So, with clear voice, they stand repeating:
 “Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?
 The Bridegroom is at hand;
 Take up your lamps and stand!
 Hallelujah!
 Each wedding guest
 Fit for the feast,
 Go forth, go forth to meet your Lord!”