

Star of Columbia
SATB a cappella

VF-004

Matilda Durham, arr. Cook

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Matilda Durham, arr. Jennifer Lucy Cook

SATB a cappella



Jonathan Campbell Incorporated

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Matilda Durham (1815-1901) was an American composer and music teacher. She may be the first woman to publish music in the United States, with the hymn "Promised Land" (1835, *Southern Harmony*). Her second composition, "Star of Columbia," was also published in a subsequent edition of "Southern Harmony." Both hymns are included in the sixth edition of 1854.

Durham's musical style is characteristic of shape-note hymnody. There are abundant parallelisms, open fifths, and a rugged, determined rhythmic energy. The melodies are in the middle voice (tenor), which contributes to the idiomatic sound.

Performance suggestion: Similar to Dufay's *L'Homme Arme Mass*, one effective way to perform these works is to sing through the tune once, then begin the arrangement.

- Jonathan Campbell

Text:

Jen's alterations from the original appear in italics

Columbia! Columbia! To glory arise
The queen of the world, and the child of the skies,
Thy genius commands thee, with rapture behold,
While ages on ages thy splendors unfold

With a welcome in the mountains and a bounty we all share
Most fruitful thy soil, most inviting *the air*
Let the *debts of our fathers be repaid to clear thy name*
Be freedom and science and virtue thy fame

Thus down a lone valley with cedars o'erspread,
From the noise of the town I pensively stray'd
The *bloom** from the face of fair heaven retired
The wind ceased to murmur, the thunders expired.

Perfumes, as of Eden, flow'd sweetly along,
And a voice, as of angels, enchantingly sung,
Columbia! Columbia! To glory arise,
The queen of the world and the child of the skies

With a welcome in the mountains and a bounty we all share
Most fruitful thy soil, most inviting *the air*
Let the *debts of our fathers be repaid to clear thy name*
Be freedom and science and virtue thy fame

- Dr. Timothy Dwight (1752-1817), ed. Cook 2023

* *Some early hymnals, perhaps mistakenly, reprinted the word "gloom" as "bloom," so Jen incorporated this change.*



Jennifer Lucy Cook (she/her) is a composer and lyricist based in Los Angeles. Jen specializes in music for the stage and screen, choral music, and pop songwriting. Recent choral commissions include Phoenix Chorale, Cantorum Chamber Choir, and Choral Arts Ensemble in MN. She is the recipient of the Chorus Austin Composition Prize, the Cantus Emerging Composer Award, the HerVoice Female Composer Prize and the Edwin Fissinger Composition Prize. She is an alumni of the Johnny Mercer Foundation Writer's Grove with Goodspeed Musicals, and her theater commissions include Full House Theatre Co., British Youth Musical Theatre, and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London. Her musical recaps of the Bachelor recently went viral on TikTok.

Despite writing music in such a wide range of genres, Jen's music is united by a keen love for storytelling with song. She prioritizes specific, highly emotional lyrics, melodic earworms, and infectious rhythmic grooves, and conceives of every piece from a dramatic, narrative-driven perspective. More information can be found at jenniferlucycook.com.

Jonathan Campbell, BA, MSM, DMA, currently serves as Director of Music at Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka, MN, and is a Contributing Editor for Graphite Publishing. His music publishers include Augsburg Fortress, Concordia, Morningstar, GIA, Sacred Music Press, and Falls House. He won first prize in the Morningside Choral Composition Contest and was also awarded a Faith Partner's Residency with the American Composers Forum. Jonathan has served many churches, conducted the Chorale of the Honors Choirs S.E. MN for eight years, and has served on the faculties of Winona State University, Augsburg University, and Pomona College.

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

Co - lum - bia! Co - lum - bia! To glo - ry a - rise, The queen of the world, and the child of the skies, Thy

ge - nius com - mands thee, with rap - tures be - hold, While a - ges on a - ges thy splen - dours un - fold.

For perusal only. Please do not copy.
 Editor's Note: this edition is pitched down one half step from the original.

Program Note:

During our current tumultuous moment in America's history, revisiting an early American hymn text through 2022's lens was a challenging endeavor. The violent colonialist values espoused in the original text are no longer points of pride. But inside this old text, I found a few moments that really resonated with me: those about the earth itself.

My first experience in Yosemite National Park was a surprisingly moving one. The sheer scale of the mountains, the El Capitan rock face, and the depth of the canyon left me awestruck and spellbound, as it does for many of the visitors to the park. There was a peacefulness in the humility I felt as a small being witnessing such grand nature. And, I felt immense gratitude for the leaders throughout America's history who have fought to preserve the precious resources in the National Parks that the United States houses within its borders.

While reworking the text for a fraught modern time, I realized that this respect for nature's beauty is the timeless connection to Matilda Durham's era. I chose to highlight the lines about the "inviting air" and "fruitful soil" and enhance them with my own praise for the mountains, the bounteousness we share as a community, and the work we are doing together to repair the harm from our colonialist past. Through this lens, America is worth singing about. Together with Matilda Durham's enchanting tune, we can honor early American female composers, as well as the land and its history that we inherited.

- Jennifer Lucy Cook

Voces
Feminae

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In honor of the legacy left by the many women who composed music before me;
premiered by the Phoenix Chorale under the direction of Christopher Gabbitas, May 2023

Star of Columbia

SATB a cappella choir

Dr. Timothy Dwight (1752-1817)
Revised by Jennifer Lucy Cook

Matilda Durham (1815-1901)
arr. Jennifer Lucy Cook

With weight ♩ = 78

*Throughout the piece, single syllables across eighth notes should be "pulsed"

Voces Feminae

Soprano
Free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame Be it free - dom and

Alto
Free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame Be it free - dom and

Tenor
Free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame Be it free - dom and

Baritone
Free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame Be it free - dom and

Piano
for rehearsal only
p

Voces Feminae

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

6

S sci - ence thy fame Col - um - bia! Col - um - bia! To

A sci - ence thy fame um - bia! Col - um - bia! To

T sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame um - bia! Col - um - bia! To

B sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame um - bia! Col - um - bia! To

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

Voces Feminae

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

11

S Glo - ry a - rise *The queen of the world and the child of the skies Thy

A Glo - ry a - rise The queen of the world and the child of the skies *Thy

T Glo - ry a - rise *The queen of the world and the child of the skies Thy

B Glo - ry a - rise *The queen of the world and the child of the skies *Thy

*Pulsed

mp

Voces Feminae

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17

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S
gen - ius com - mands thee with rap - ture be - hold *While a - ges on a - ges thy

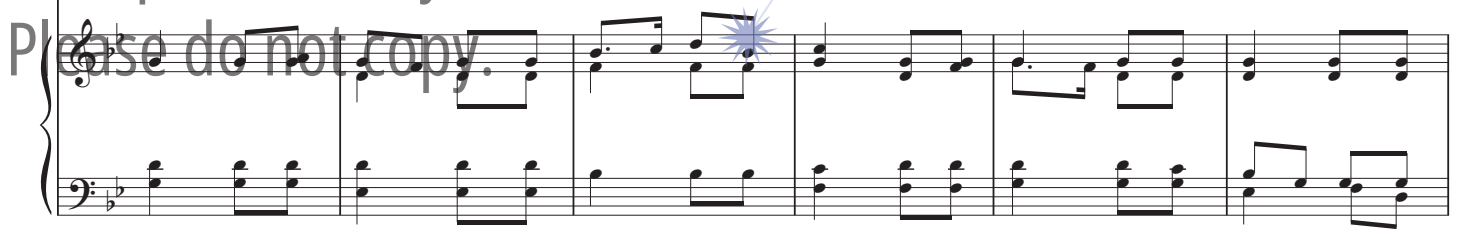
A
gen - ius com - mands thee with rap - ture be - hold While a - ges on a - ges thy

T
gen - ius com - mands thee with rap - ture be - hold *While a - ges on a - ges thy

B
gen - ius com - mands thee with rap - ture be - hold *While a - ges on a - ges thy

For perusal only.

Please do not copy.



Piano accompaniment for measures 17-22, featuring a right-hand melody and a left-hand bass line.

23

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Please do not copy.

S
splen - dors un - fold Oh

A
splen - dors un - fold With a wel - come in the moun - tains and a

T
splen - dors un - fold Oh

B
splen - dors un - fold With a wel - come in the moun - tains and a

Voces Feminae

For perusal only. Please do not copy.



Piano accompaniment for measures 23-28, featuring a right-hand melody and a left-hand bass line.

28

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S Oh _____ Fruit - ful thy soil most in - vit - ing the

A boun - ty we all share Most _____ Fruit - ful thy soil most in - vit - ing the

T Oh _____ Fruit - ful thy soil most in - vit - ing the

B boun - ty we all share Most _____ Fruit - ful thy soil most in - vit - ing the

p mp mf

33

S air Let the debts of our fath - ers be re - paid to clear thy name Be free - dom and

A air Let the debts of our fath - ers be re - paid clear thy name Be free - dom and

T air Let the debts of our fath - ers be re - paid clear thy name Be free - dom and

B air Let the debts of our fath - ers be re - paid clear thy name Be free - dom and

mp mf f

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

39

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S sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame Be it Free - dom and sci - ence and

A sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame Be it Free - dom and sci - ence and

T sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame Be it Free - dom and sci - ence and

B sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame Be it Free - dom and sci - ence and

44

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

S vir - tue thy fame Be it free na na na na na na na na na na na na na na na na

A vir - tue thy fame Be it free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy

T vir - tue thy fame Be it free - dom and na na na na na na na na na na na na na na

B vir - tue thy fame Be it free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

49

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

S na Ooh Ooh

A fame na na na na Ooh Ooh

T na na na na Thus down a lone val - ley with ce - dars ov - er spread From the

B fame na na na Thus down a lone val - ley with ce - dars ov - er spread From the

mp *p* *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

55

For perusal only.

Please do not copy.

S Ooh pen - sive - ly stray'd The bloom from the

A Ooh pen - sive - ly stray'd The bloom from the

T noise of the town pen - sive - ly stray'd Ooh

B noise of the town I pen - sive - ly stray'd Ooh

mf *mf* *mp* *mp* *mf* *mp*

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

60 *ff*

S face of fair heav - en re - tired The wind ceased to mur - mur the thun - ders ex -

A face of fair heav - en re - tired The wind ceased to mur - mur the thun - ders and

T wind ceases to mur - mur the thun - ders and

B wind ceases to mur - mur the thun - ders and

ff

Voces Feminae

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

a little slower *pp*

66

S pired Ooh And per - fumes as of Ed - en flow'd sweet - ly a -

A thun - ders and thund - ers ex - pired And per - fumes of Ed - en flow'd sweet - ly a -

T thun - ders and thund - ers ex - pired And per - fumes of Ed - en flow'd sweet - ly a -

B thun - ders and thund - ers ex - pired And per - fumes of Ed - en flow'd sweet - ly a -

pp

Voces Feminae

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

S long And a voice as of an - gels en - chant - ing - ly sung Col - um - bia! Col -

A long And a voice as of an - gels en - chant - ing - ly sung Col - um - bia! Col -

T long And a voice as of an - gels en - chant - ing - ly sung Col - um - bia! Col -

B long And a voice as of an - gels en - chant - ing - ly sung Col - um - bia! Col -

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

S um - bia! To glo - ry a - rise! The queen of the world and the child of the

A um - bia! To glo - ry a - rise! The queen of the world and the child of the

T um - bia! To glo - ry a - rise! The queen of the world and the child of the

B um - bia! To glo - ry a - rise! The queen of the world and the child of the

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

84

For perusal only. Please do not copy.

S
skies Of the skies Free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame be it

A
skies Free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame be it

T
skies Of the skies Free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame be it

B
skies Of the skies Free - dom and sci - ence and vir - tue thy fame be it

mp

90

For perusal only.

Please do not copy.

S
free - na na na na na na na na na na Ooh

A
free - dom and sci - ence na na Ooh

T
free - dom and na na na na na na na na na na Ooh

B
free - dom and sci - ence na na na na Ooh

No Rit.

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