

Story of the Shepherd

Luis de Góngora y Argote, tr. Edward Churton

Joseph Barnby, before 1872

♩ = 108

1. It was the ve - ry noon of night, the stars a - bove the fold, More
 2. Oh, ne'er could night-in - gale at dawn sa - lute the ris - ing day With
 3. I roused me at the pierc - ing strain, but shrunk as from the ray Of
 4. When once the hap - py trance was past, that so my sense did bind, I
 5. I hast - ed to a low - roofed shed, for so the an - gel bade; And

sure than clock or chim - ing bell, the hour of mid - night told; When
 sweet - ness like that bird of song in his im - mor - tal lay; Oh,
 sum - mer light - ning; all a - round so bright the splen - dor lay. For
 left my sheep to Him whose care was in the west - ern wind; I
 bowed be - fore the low - ly rack where love di - vine was laid: A

from the heavens there came a voice, and forms were seen to shine, Still
 ne'er were wood - notes heard at eve by banks with pop - lar shade So
 oh, it mas - tered sight and sense, to see that glo - ry shine, To
 left them, for in - stead of snow, I trod on blade and flower, And
 new - born babe, like ten - der lamb, with li - on's strength there smiled, For

brighten - ing as the mu - sic rose with light and love di - vine. With
 thrill - ing as the con - cert sweet by heav'n - ly harp - ings made; For
 hear that min - strel in the clouds, who sang of love di - vine, To
 ice dis - solved in star - ry rays at morn - ing's gra - cious hour, Re -
 li - on's strength, im - mor - tal might, was in that new - born Child; That



love di - vine the song be - gan; there shone a light se - rene: Oh,
 love di - vine was in each chord, and filled each pause be - tween: Oh,
 see that form with bird - like wings, or more than mor - tal mein; Oh,
 - veal - ing where on earth the steps of love di - vine had been: Oh,
 love di - vine in child - like form had God for - ev - er been: Oh,



who hath heard what I have heard or seen what I have seen? Oh, who hath heard what
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I have heard or seen what I have seen!
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