

Once to every soul and nation

*But the soul is still oracular; amid the market's din,
List the ominous stern whisper from the Delphic cave within,—
"They enslave their children's children who make compromise with sin"*

Text: James Russell Lowell, 1845

Music: Thomas John Williams, 1890

EBENEZER 87.87.87.87

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (one sharp), and 12/8 time. It consists of four staves of music. Above each staff are chord symbols: Em, B, C, B, Em, G, D, Em, B7, Em for the first staff; Em, B, C, B, Em, G, D, Em, B7, Em for the second staff; G, D, Em, B, Em, D, Em, D, G for the third staff; and Em, B, C, B, Em, G, D, Em, B7, Em for the fourth staff. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with three verses of text aligned with the musical phrases.

1 Once to ev - 'ry soul and na - tion comes the mo - ment to de - cide,
2 New oc - ca-sions teach new du - ties, time makes an - cient good un-couth;
3 Though the cause of e - vil pros-per, yet 'tis truth a - lone is strong;
in the strife of truth with false-hood, for the good or e - vil side;
they must up-ward still and on - ward who would keep a - breast of truth.
though her por-tion be the scaf - fold, and up - on the throne be wrong.
Then to side with truth is no - ble, when we share her wretch-ed crust,
Lo, be - fore us gleam her camp-fires! We our - selves must pil - grims be,
Then it is the brave one choos - es, while the cow - ard stands a - side
ere her cause bring fame and prof - it, and 'tis prosp-'rous to be just;
nor at - tempt the fu - ture's por - tal with the past's blood - rus - ted key.
till the mul - ti - tude make vir - tue of the faith they had de-nied.