

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

(IRBY)

CECIL FRANCES ALEXANDER, 1848

H. J. GAUNTLETT, 1805-1876

$\text{♩} = 108$

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and Lord of all,

Where a moth - er laid her ba - by, In a man - ger for his bed:
And his shel - ter was a sta - ble, And his cra - dle was a stall;

Ma - ry was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
With the poor, and mean, and low - ly, Lived on earth our Sav - iour ho - ly. A - men.

3. And, through all his wondrous childhood,
He would honor and obey,
Love, and watch the lowly maiden
In whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.
4. For he is our childhood's pattern;
Day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.
5. And our eyes at last shall see him
Through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.
6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven
Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars his children crowned,
All in white shall wait around.