

AMNS 335 A stranger once did bless the earth

John Clare
(1793-1864)

Melody: Surrey

Henry Carey
(c. 1690-1743)

1. A stran-ger once did bless the earth who nev-er caused a
 2. An out-cast thrown in sor-row's way, a fu-gi-tive that
 3. His pres-ence was a peace to all, he bade the sor-row-
 4. The blind met day-light in his eye, the joys of ev-er-
 5. It was for sin he suf-fered all to set the world-im-

heart to mourn, whose ve-ry voice gave sor-row mirth; and
 knew no sin, yet in lone pla-ces forced to stray; men
 ful re-joice. Pain turned to plea-sure at his call, health
 last-ing day; the sick found health in his re-ply, the
 pri-soned free, to cheer the wear-y when they call; and

how did earth his worth re-turn? it spurned him from its
 would not take the stran-ger in. Yet peace, though much him-
 lived and is-sued from his voice; he healed the sick, and
 cri-ple threw his crutch a-way. Yet he with trou-bles
 who could such a stran-ger be? The God, who hears each

low-liest lot: the mean-est sta-tion owned him not.
 self he mourned, was all to o-thers he re-turned.
 sent a-broad the dumb re-joice-ing in the Lord.
 did re-main, and suf-fered po-ver-ty and pain.
 hu-man cry, and came, a Sa-viour, from on high.