

The Salvation Army's 'Secular' Heritage - Fred Creighton

Did you know that many early day Salvation Army songs were sung to secular, non-Salvation Army, non-church music?

Why??

Because the early Army meetings attracted mostly 'unchurched' men and women who knew secular (e.g. music hall) music better than church hymns. So the Army used 'Army' words set to secular song tunes to encourage the 'unchurched' to attend, participate and be converted in Army meetings.

Altogether, there are 105 secular song tunes which have 'survived' in our current Tune Book! Below I have listed just some of these tunes with their original secular title:

Tune Book #		was originally:	
617:	Begone, Vain World		Begone Dull Care
802:	Storm the Forts of Darkness		Here's to Good Old Whiskey / Come, Landlord, Fill the Flowing Bowl
158:	Ten Thousand Souls		Down in a Green and Shady Nook the Modest Violet Grows
75:	Behold the Saviour		Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes
633:	Come, Shout and Sing		I Traced Her Little Footsteps in the Snow
152:	I Bring My All to Thee		It Was My Last Cigar, My Boys
363:	Breathe Upon Me		Minnie Darling, Let Us Wander
278:	Coming to the Cross		Mother Kissed Me in My Dream
739:	My God, I Am Thine		My Sweetheart, Come Along
190:	Nearer, My God, to Thee		Oft in the Stilly Night
445:	Speak, Saviour, Speak		Sleep, Dearest, Sleep
642:	Fellowship With Thee		Sweet Belle Mahone
503:	Stella		Sweet Mary, My Age is Sixteen
573:	The Lion of Judah		The Lion of Freedom is Come From His Den
777:	Ring the Bells of Heaven		The Little Octoroon
819:	The Lily of the Valley		The Little Old Log Cabin Down the Lane
93:	Hardy Norseman		The Norseman's House of Yore
149:	Forest Green		The Ploughboy's Dream
76:	Belmont		The Rat-catcher's Daughter
99:	Irish		There Was a Cameronian Cat
264:	Stand Up for Jesus		'Tis Dawn, the Lark is Singing
449:	The Vacant Chair		We Shall Meet, But We Shall Miss Him
442:	Pleasure in His Service		Where is the Merry Party?
486:	The Cross Now Covers my Sins		Young Edward, the Gallant Hussar
348:	Whitechapel		Annie Lisle / Far Above Vayuga's Waters
339:	All Through the Night		AR-HYD-Y-NOS (Welsh Melody)
580:	At the Cross		As They Were Marching Through the Town
785:	Shout Aloud Salvation		Bring the Good Old Bugle, Boys, We'll Sing Another Song
5:	And Above the Rest		Buffalo Gals
138:	The Judgement Day		Carry me Back to Tennessee
155:	Mercy Still For Thee		Footsteps on the Stairs
739:	My God, I Am Thine		Hallelujah! I'm a Bum
480:	Almighty to Save		Where Can the Soul Find Rest?
740:	My Home is in Heaven		Home in the Valley 'Mid the Maple Leaves
235:	There is a Happy Land		I Come From a Land Where Care is Unknown
641:	Ere the Sun Goes Down		I Have Work Enough to Do
84:	Down in the Garden		Massa's in de Cold, Cold Ground
258:	Passion Chorale		My Heart is Distracted By a Gentle Maid
587:	We'll All Shout Hallelujah		Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, The Boys Are Marching