

Ada Ruth Habershon, 1861-1918.

Born: January 8, 1861, St. Marylebone, Middlesex, England. (1) (2)

Died: February 1, 1918.

Ada was the third of three daughters, and fourth child of Dr. Samuel Osborne Habershon and Grace Habershon. Sometime between 1871 and 1881, the family moved from St. Marylebone, and thereafter resided at 70 Brook Street, Chelsea, St. George, Hanover Square, London, England. In 1881, Dr. Habershon's household consisted of the six Habershons, and six persons with other surnames. (2) (3) (4) (5)

She was brought up in a Christian home by believing, praying parents, and her whole life was devoted to God's service. During his lifetime, Ada R. Habershon was a member of the circle surrounding Rev. Charles Haddon Spurgeon, 1834-1892. (6) She possessed German language skills and wrote in that language in 1899. In 1901, Ada began writing poetry while ill and wrote "Apart with Him." She met Dwight Lyman Moody and Ira David Sankey when they visited London in 1884, and she visited America at their invitation to deliver lectures on the Old Testament, which were later published. During the 1905 Torrey-Alexander Mission, Charles M. Alexander asked her to write some Gospel songs; within a year, she supplied him with 200.

Ada was a member of the 1905 Torrey-Alexander Mission. She based her words on the sermons of Dr. R.A. Torrey, then passed them along to Robert Harkness to be set to music. Harkness was Charles M. Alexander's pianist. (7)

Her works include:

A Gatherer of Fresh Spoil; an Autobiography and Memoir, 1918.

A Sevenfold Method of Studying the Epistles to the Seven Churches, 1914.

Hidden Pictures: Or, how the New Testament is Concealed in the Old Testament. (London: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1916.)

I Am a Prayer and Other Poems, 1918.

Israel's Exodus: Past and Future, 1918.

Outline Study of the Tabernacle

Paper read at the Women's Branch of the Prophecy Investigation Society, April 19th, 1914.

Paper read at the Women's Branch of the Prophecy Investigation Society, May 11th, 1916.

Study of the Miracles

The Bible and the British Museum. (London: Morgan & Scott. 1904.)

The Day of Atonement in Its Prophetic Aspect, 1916.

The Priests and Levites, a Type of the Church; a Bible Study, 1908.

The Study of the Parables. (London: Nisbet. 1904.) (8)

The Study of the Types. (London: Morgan & Scott. 1898.) (8)

The Victorian Handbook of Types

Types in the Old Testament, 1898.

Vorbilder: Christus im alten Testament, 1899.

Hymns

Are You Ready for the Coming?

At Your Door. © 1908 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #82. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

Bearing His Cross. © 1906 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #79. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

Go Home and Tell. © 1906 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #81. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

He Will Hold Me Fast

I Love Him. In Robert H. Coleman. **The Popular Hymnal**, #335. (Dallas, Texas: Robert H. Coleman Co. 1918.)

I Need to Be Filled

I'm a Poor Sinner. © 1908 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #83. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

See below on page 2 for additional hymns and sources.

Hymns

Is He Yours? © 1905 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #5. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

Let Him Mold Thee

Meet Me in the Homeland

My Sins Are Forgiven. © 1905 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #23. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

No Burdens Yonder. © 1906 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #24. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

No Other Story

Now. © 1907 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Charles Hutchinson Gabriel, 1856-1932. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #36. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

Oh, What a Change! © 1905 Chas. M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Daniel B. Towner and Chas. M. Alexander. **Revival Hymns**, #8. (Chicago: The Bible Institute Colportage Association. 1905.) Also in Adam Geibel and Frederic W. Eickhoff. **Hymns We Love**, etc., #57. (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Adam Geibel Music Co. 1907.); and Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #47. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.) Later in E.O. Excell. **Hymns and Sacred Songs**, # 233. (Chicago, Illinois: Hope Publishing Company. 1918.); and In Robert H. Coleman. **The Popular Hymnal**, #282. (Dallas, Texas: Robert H. Coleman Co. 1918.)

Pardoned. © 1908 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #61. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

Soon Will Our Savior from Heaven Appear. (See Oh, What a Change!)

This is Grace. © 1906 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Robert Harkness, 1880-1961. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #110. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.)

What Will It Be When We See Him?

Will the Circle Be Unbroken? (Habershon) © 1907 Charles M. Alexander. Music: Charles Hutchinson Gabriel, 1856-1932. In Charles M. Alexander. **Alexander's Gospel Songs**, #55. (New York, Chicago, Toronto, London, Edinburgh: Flemming H. Revell Company. 1908.) The parenthetical is added because of name duplication: **Will The Circle Be Unbroken?** (Wright) Words and Music: J.B.F. Wright, 19th and 20th Centuries. In **Sunbeams of Joy**, (Jasper, Alabama: Parris Music Co. 1940.) Assignment © 1947 to Stamps Quartet Music Co. Inc. Reprinted in **Olde Time Camp Meetin' Songs**, #12. (Camdentown, Missouri: Albert E. Brumley & Sons. 1971.) Also **Will the Circle Be Unbroken?** (Carter) Words and Music: A.P. Carter (Alvin Pleasant Delaney Carter) (1891-1960), 1935. © 1935 Peer International Corp.

Sources:

- 1) David Beattie. **The Romance of Sacred Song**. Marshall, Morgan & Scott. 1931. Beattie reported her birthplace as Rotherham, Yorkshire, England. This is at variance with three England Censuses. The Ada Habershon that Beattie reported did not have a middle name, and was born in March 1892.
- 2) 1861 England Census.
- 3) 1871 England Census.
- 4) 1881 England Census.
- 5) 1901 England Census.
- 6) C. Stephen Finley. *Nature's Covenant: Figures of Landscape in Ruskin*, page 29. (State College, Pennsylvania: Penn State Press. 1992.)
- 7) George T.B. Davis. *Twice Around the World with Alexander, Prince of Gospel Singers, Storming South and Central London, The Birth of a Hymn*, p. 197. (New York: The Christian Herald. Louis Klopsch, Proprietor. 1907.)
- 8) Reprinted by Charles C. Cook, New York, 1908. In *Record of Christian Work*, Volume XXVII, p. 82. (East Northfield, Massachusetts: W.R. Moody. 1908.)