

CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL.

MUNICH.

7.6.7.6.D.

Meiningen, 1693; har. by
FELIX MENDELSSOHN, 1809-1847.

1 We sing the glo-rious con-quest Be-fore Da-mas-cus gate,

When Saul, the Church's spoil-er, Came breathing threats and hate;

The rav-ening wolf rushed for-ward Full ear-ly to the prey;

But lo! the Shep-herd met him, And bound him fast to-day. A-men.

- 2 O glory most excelling,
That smote across his path!
O light that pierced and blinded
The zealot in his wrath!
O voice that spake within him
The calm, reproving word!
O love that sought and held him
The bondman of his Lord!
- 3 O Wisdom ordering all things
In order strong and sweet,
What nobler spoil was ever
Cast at the Victor's feet?

- What wiser master-builder
E'er wrought at Thine employ
Than he, till now so furious
Thy building to destroy?
- 4 Lord, teach Thy Church the lesson,
Still in her darkest hour
Of weakness and of danger,
To trust Thy hidden power:
Thy grace by ways mysterious
The wrath of man can bind,
And in Thy boldest foeman
Thy chosen saint can find. Amen.

JOHN ELLERTON, 1871.