

The Treaty

THE MOUNTAINS AND THE FORESTS

(The Three Covenants *)

Tune: AURELIA

WOV 385, MHB 701, NS 170(i), CH4 739

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

1. The mountains and the forests,
The fields and sparkling seas,
The sap that throbs around us
In joyful unity,
Are gifts from God the artist,
The dreams God brings to birth
And naming God " Creator"
Demands we reverence Earth.
2. God loves Earth's sons and daughters
With love that never ends:
Through Mary and through Joseph,
Through Jesus and his friends,
Through prophets, priests and artists
God gives a binding word,
The offer of forgiveness
That makes us one with God.
3. In Aotearoa,
The Treaty binds us all
To share land and resources
As in Waitangi's call;
To foster Māori language
Within our island shores
And honour Māori tanga
Below our cross of stars.
4. O may this three-fold pledging
Become the common stand
Of Pakeha and Māori
And all within this land,
That bound to mother nature
And bound in love to Christ,
Waitangi may be honoured
Despite our nation's past.

* 1. *The covenant with nature.*

2. *The covenant of grace.*

3. *The covenant of the Treaty of Waitangi.*