

O admirabile commercium

LOYSET COMPÈRE

O ad- mi- ra- - bi- le com- mer- - ci- um, com-

O ad- mi- ra- bi- le com- mer- ci- um, com- - -

O ad- mi- ra- bi- le com- mer- - ci- um:

O ad- mi- ra- - bi- le com- mer- ci- um, com- - -

8

mer- ci- um: cre- - a- tor ge- - ne- ris, ge- -

mer- ci- um: cre- - a- - tor ge- ne- ris, cre- a- -

8 cre- - a- - - - - tor ge- - ne- ris,

mer- ci- um: cre- - a- tor ge- ne- ris, cre- a- -

16

- - - - ne- ris hu- ma- ni, hu- ma- - ni,

tor ge- - - - ne- ris hu- ma- ni, hu- - ma-

8 ge- - - - ne- ris hu- - ma- ni, hu- -

tor ge- - - - ne- ris hu- - - - ma- ni, hu-

22

hu- ma- ni de
- - ni, hu- ma- - ni a- ni- ma- - - tum cor- pus su- mens
ma- - ni de
ma- ni a- ni- ma- tum cor- - - pus su- - mens

29

vir- - - gi- ne, de vir- - - gi- ne na- - - sci
na- - - sci,
vir- - - gi- ne, de vir- - - gi- ne
na- - - sci

36

- - sci di- - gna- tus est, di- gna- tus est
et pro- ce- -
- - sci di- - gna- tus est, di- gna- tus est et

42

et pro- ce- - - dens ho- - - -
dens ho- - - -
pro- ce- - - dens ho- - - - mo

48

- - mo si- ne
si- - ne se- - mi- ne, si- ne se- - mi- ne,
- - mo si- - ne se- - mi- ne,
si- - ne se- - mi- ne,

54

se- mi- ne, si- - ne se- - mi- ne, si- ne se- - mi- ne
si- ne se- mi- ne, si- ne se- - - mi- ne lar-
si- ne se- mi- ne lar- gi- tus

61

lar- gi- tus est no- - - bis su- am de-
gi- tus est no- - bis, no- - - bis su- am de- i- ta-
lar- gi- tus est no- - - bis su- - am de- i-
est no- - bis, no- bis, su- - am de- i-

67

- i- ta- - tem. Ger- mi- na-
- i- ta- - tem. Ger- mi- na- vit ra- dix Jes- - - se, ger- mi-
ta- - tem. Ger- mi- na- vit ra- dix Jes- se

72

- vit ra- dix Jes- - - se

Or- - ta est stel- - la

na- - vit ra- dix Jes- - - se

or- ta est stel- la ex

77

vir- go pe- pe-

- ex Ja- - cob vir- go pe- pe- rit, vir- go pe- pe- rit, vir- go pe-

vir- go

Ja- - - cob vir- go pe- - pe- rit

82

rit sal- va- to- - rem. Te lau- da- mus De- us no- - ster.

pe- rit sal- va- to- rem. Te lau- da- mus De- us no- ster.

pe- pe- rit sal- va- to- rem. Te lau- da- mus De- us no- ster.

sal- - - va- to- rem. Te lau- da- mus De- us no- ster.

Sources: MS 2269 (Librone 1), MS 2266 (Librone 4), Archivio della Veneranda Fabbrica del Duomo, Sezione Musicale, Milan
Note values halved. Transposed down a tone.

Text: Vespers antiphons *O admirabile commercium* and *Germinavit radix Jesse* for the feast of the Circumcision (1st January)

Translation:

O admirable exchange: The creator of the human race, assuming a living body was worthy to be born of a virgin, and coming forth as a man without seed, has granted us his deity.

The root of Jesse has sprouted, a star has risen out of Jacob; a virgin has borne for us a saviour. We praise you, our God.

Lynn Halpern Ward (*The "Motetti Missales" Repertory Reconsidered*, Journal of the American Musicological Society, Vol. 39, No. 3 - Autumn 1986) has suggested that this piece may be part of a *motetti musicali* cycle: a Milanese practice of substituting the movements of a mass with motets. In its two sources, it is grouped with the other extant motets of this conjectural cycle: In Librone 1, it follows *Ave virgo gloriosa* and *Ave regina caelorum*; in the fire-damaged Librone 4, it is followed by *Sanctus* and *O genetrix gloriosa*. Whether or not all the components of Ward's proposed cycle were ever performed as a unit, it seems likely that they were used in the groupings in which they appear in the Libroni.