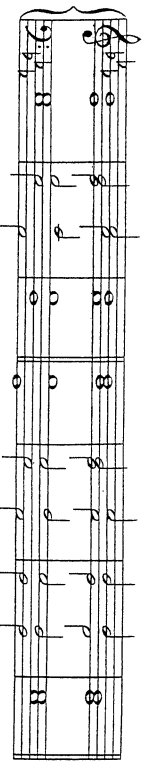
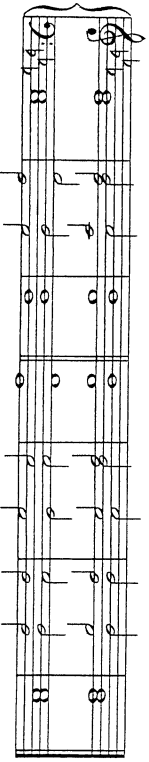


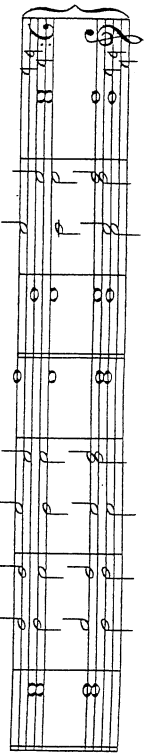
The Scripture of the Parable of the Herbs



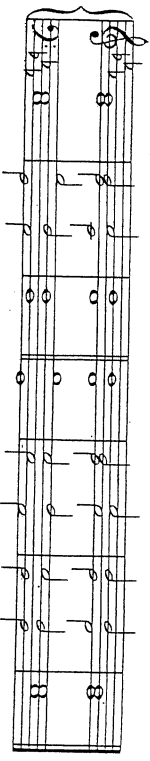
The Buddha spoke | thus in verse
 The pa | rable of the Herbs.
 The Dharmā is like a | great cloud
 Rising | above the world,



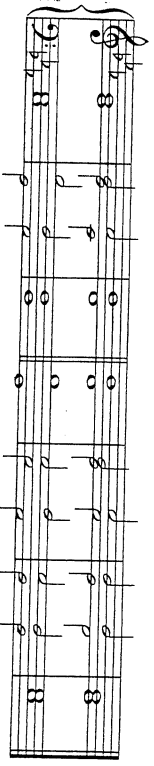
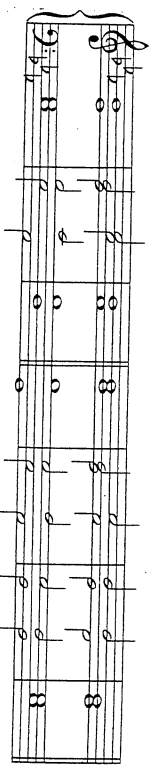
Covering all things | everywhere,
 A beneficent cloud | full of moisture;
 Flashes of lightning | shine and glint,
 The voice of thunder | vibrates from afar,
 Bringing gladness and | ease to all.
 The sun's rays are veiled, | and the earth is cooled;
 The cloud lowers and | spreads as if
 It might be | caught and gathered;
 Its rain everywhere | equally
 Descends on all sides | streaming and | pouring
 without stint,
 Enriching | all the land.
 On mountains, | by rivers, | in steep valleys, | and
 in hid | den recesses,



There grow the plants, trees, | and the herbs;
 Trees, big or small | the shoots of all the ripening grain, |
 sugarcane | and the grapevine,
 All these by rain are | fertilized
 And are a | bountantly enriched.



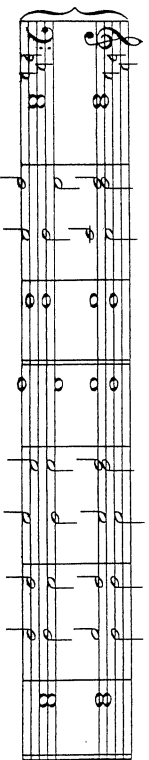
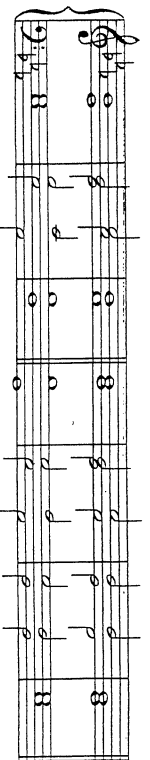
The dry ground | is all soaked,
 And the herbs and trees | flourish together.
 From the one water which issued | from that cloud,
 Plants, trees, thickets, forests, | according to their need, |
 receive moisture.
 All the trees, | superior, middle, inferior, | all each
 according | to its size,
 Grow and develop roots, stalks, | branches, and leaves, |
 blossoms and fruits in | their brilliant colors
 By the pouring of | the one rain,
 All become | fresh and glossy.



Just as their bodies, forms, and natures | are divided
into | great and small,
So the enriching rain, | though one and the same, | makes
each flourish well.
In the same manner | the Buddha also appears | in the world,
Like a great cloud universally | covering all things;

And, | having appeared | in the world,
He, | for the sake of all living beings, | discriminates and
proclaims the reality | of the holy laws.
The great holy World-honoured One among humans | high
and low,
Proclaims this, | saying thus to all:

“I am the Ta | thagata,
The most honoured among | human beings;
I appear | in the world
Just | as a great cloud,



To pour enrichment on all parched | living beings,
To free them | all from misery
And so attain the | joy of peace,
Joy in the world, and the | joy of nirvana.

Humans high and low! — With all your mind hearken |
unto me.
Come all of you here and behold the | peerless hon-
ored one.
I am the World-honoured One, who cannot | be
equaled.
To give peace to all creatures I ap | pear in the world,

And for the hosts of | the living
Preach the law, | pure as the sweet dew:
The one and | only Law
Of emancipation | and of nirvana”