

Our Lady's Presentation.



POTLESS as a stainless lily,
With love glowing like the rose,
Mary, from her home and kindred,
To the Lord's bright temple goes :
Oh ! the sweetness—the completeness—
Of that kindling sacrifice ;
From Light's blossom to Love's bosom
Blessed Perfumes Godward rise :
She doth run on the sweet odors
Of the Bridegroom, she doth fly,
Amorous Dove, to Heaven's bosom
Lost, embraced in love most high ;
Ah ! for sweetness, what completeness
Burning in the sacrifice ;
God's Dove's cooing softly wooing,
Wooing Heaven from Paradise—
God's Dove's cooing softly woos
Heaven to earth from Paradise !

Little life of Wisdom's flowers,
Great in love breathed sweetly through,
Busy hands so filled with graces,
Feet so faithful, heart so true ;
Such rare sweetness of completeness
Crowns this blossoming sacrifice,
Full of yearning, ever turning,
From the earth her heavenly eyes :
Lowly, holy, like the Virgin
In God's temple, let us be ;
With each breath grow nearer, dearer
Unto Jesus, as did she :
Then, faith's sweetness in completeness,
Mary's children's sacrifice,
Shall rise purely, through her, surely,
Heaven-bless'd from Paradise—
Shall rise purely, through her, sure
Of hope's crown, love's Paradise !

—SISTER W., O.C.C.