

mend them to the taste of every lover of genuine poetry. The principal poem in the book is "The Prophecy of Merlin." It reads like a supplementary Idyl of the King, without being in any sense an imitation of Tennyson. The treatment is original, and is marked by much beauty and vigour. Its central thought is the old legend of the reappearance of King Arthur in the after-time; and by a very ingenious device, Merlin the prophet foretells the story of that after-time when a new Arthur, the son of our beloved Queen, shall shed new glories on the name borne by the King of Camelot—*Flos regum Arthurus*. The poems illustrating Scripture incidents—Vashti, Balaam, Rizpah, Jubal, Sisera, Jephthah—have an exaltation of character which indicates the source of their inspiration. Several of the poems have a nobly patriotic ring, as that on the Fenian Raid, the long and spirit-stirring poem on the birth of the new Dominion, and the grand lament for the death of Thomas D'Arcy McGee :

O Canada, weep, 'twas for thee that
he spoke the last words of his
life!
Weep, Erin, his blood has been shed
in the healing of wounds of thy
strife!

The tender grace of the poem "Unus Abest" will touch every heart, and all will join in the prayer of the closing stanza :

Then let us live that when the call
Of the Great Trumpet wakes us all,
These words from God's high throne
may fall—

NULLUS ABEST.

The mastery of rhyme and rhythm is strikingly shown in the difficult metre of the poem "Per Noctem Plurima Voivens" :

When the moon is rising slowly with
a light serene and holy,
The Queen of all the Watchers,
the Sister of the Sun,
And hushed are all the noises from
Earth's unnumbered voices,
And the heart of Sleep rejoices in
the contest he has won.

A keen sympathy with Nature in her varying moods is shown in such poems as those entitled Spring, Winter Sunshine, Thalatta, Summer is Dead, A Field Flower, De Profundis, and others. The translations from the great masters of the classic lyre are admirably done, as well as those from the French, but few poets can equal the grace of his original Latin verses. We give as a specimen the accompanying Christmas acrostic, one of the most elegant little poems mastering technical difficulties of execution we have ever seen.

CHRISTUS SALVATOR.

C horo sancto nunciatus,
H omo, Deus Increatus,
R egum, Rex, Puella natus,
I n ignaris habitat
S umit vilem carnis vestem,
T radens Gloriam Cœlestem
U t dispellat culpæ pestem,
S atanamque subigat.

S urgit Stella prophetarum,
A dest Victor tenebrarum,
L umen omnium terrarum
V ia, Vita, Veritas
A nimas illuminavit,
T enebrarum vim fugavit,
O ras Cœlicas monstravit
R edemptoris Claritas.

In a future number we shall enrich our pages with one or two poems which we have not here room to quote. But we advise our readers who love good poetry to procure the volume for themselves. It can be obtained from Dawson Brothers, or C. W. Coates, Montreal.