

Up his broad path of waters to his home  
 In that far Western Ocean—restful—calm—  
 Which laves the shores of rich Cathay, and breathes  
 Spice-laden-odours towards the realms of Ind.  
 Nor this alone;—to bear the Cross of Christ,  
 Still conquering and to conquer all, until  
 The demons, routed in their last retreat  
 In the gloomy North, should hie them henceforth down  
 To their own seats, nor harass mankind more.

A wide experience trained him for such task.  
 In Henry's cause he earned a soldier's fame,  
 When the white plume i' the thick of battle danced  
 And bore the rising fortune of Nayarre  
 Where conflict raged the fiercest. Peace ensured,  
 The adventurous sailor blood which coursed  
 In all his race resumed its sway, and urged  
 Him on to bold emprise i' the Western Sea.  
 His skill had steered his ever-prosperous barque  
 Through all the mazes of the Spanish main  
 And all its wealth of islands. He had trod,  
 Before the Aztec glory died away,  
 The streets of Cortez' city, and his pen  
 And ready pencil made report of all  
 The wonders marked by his observant eye.  
 Northwards, his venturous skill had traced the coast  
 Of Norembegue,<sup>3</sup> and borne on rushing tides  
 Had searched the Bay of Fundy to its depths,  
 And noted Ouygoudy's<sup>4</sup> wondrous stream  
 Flow in and outwards with a double fall.  
 Nor was he wanting in those gentler arts  
 Which bind men each to other. Oft the woods  
 Which overhang Port Royal's Basin<sup>5</sup> rang  
 With laughter of his joyous band, and rang  
 The steep-escarp'd barrier to the North  
 With echoes of their hunters' music. There—  
 Where the resistless tides of Fundy pour  
 Swift through a narrow cleft, and sudden fill  
 To the brim the basin and the long-drawn vale

<sup>3</sup> Norembegue : The name given in Champlain's time to the north-east coast of New England.

<sup>4</sup> Ouygoudy : Indian name of the River St. John, recorded in Champlain's Voyages. It can be entered at half tide only. At low tide there is a fall outwards, and at high tide a fall from the sea inwards over a ledge of rock.

<sup>5</sup> Port Royal : Now Annapolis, in Nova Scotia.