

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,³ and borne on rushing tides
 Had searched the Bay of Fundy to its depths,
 And noted Ouygoudy's⁴ 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 Basin⁵ 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

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

⁴ 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.

⁵ Port Royal : Now Annapolis, in Nova Scotia.