

FAREWELL
TO
VANDENHOFF!
ON HIS LAST READING AT TORONTO,

MARCH 12th, 1865.

FAREWELL, great reader of the Poet's mind,
Interpreter of passion, lofty thought :
Long may thy thrilling tones instruct mankind,
How faithful wom in loves,* how heroes fought.†
God speed thine errand ! may thy glorious voice
Still move the heart to rapture or to tears :
Make virtue still in virtue's cause rejoice,‡
And shake the bad with guilt's remorseful fears.§
The Poet's verse " comes mended from thy tongue,"
And Shakespeare's thoughts more surely reach the soul,
In tones like those from pealing organ flung,
When from thy lips the solemn accents roll.
Go forth : nor deem thy task unworthy thee,
Thy great, thy noble parts were surely given
To read sweet lessons to humanity,
And win the soul by flowery paths to heaven.

* The Wife. † Charge of the Light Brigade. ‡ Enoch Arden. § Macbeth.

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