

THE CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS.

BY E. C.

Hark! that wild rushing sound! 'Tis the spectre of war
 Billing fearlessly by on her blood-sprinkled car,
 The wail of deep anguish is heard o'er the plain,
 For the widow and orphan are seen in her train.

"And must we be conquered? Shall England no more
 Wield her powerful sceptre o'er Canada's shore?
 Shall our sons and our daughters as captives bend low
 'Neath the treacherous grasp of a cold-hearted foe?"

"Is there none who will aid us?—none here who will save?
 Must America's banners o'er British hearts wave?
 Shall our Island-home Queen, when she heareth the tale,
 The fate of her children, as cowards, bewail?"

"No, never!" the deep voice of loyalty cried,
 'Till the sword of the foe first in life-blood be dyed;
 'Till the heart, in its country's cause daring and bold,
 On the red battle field lieh throbbless and cold!

"Rise, Canadians, rise! loyal hearted and brave,
 Let your glory be heard o'er Atlantic's blue wave,
 Let Britannia rejoice, and to far distant years
 Bear the undying fame of her brave volunteers."

The loud call was heard and directly obey'd
 By the warm noble hearts ne'er in danger afraid;
 The sword was unsheath'd, and a patriot band
 Stood ready to fight for their own native land.

What a soul-stirring time! then the spirit of prayer
 Was breath'd out in ardour and fervency there,
 That the God who gives courage—the God of all power
 Might shelter those heroes in war's fearful hour.

Still onward they march'd, nor the wild northern blast
 That swept in such merciless tyranny past;
 Nor winter enwrap'd in her garment of snow,
 The hosann could rob of its patriot glow.

Toll and danger they slighted; but grief warmly proved
 O'er the slaughter'd remains of the comrades they lov'd,
 The soul's best emotions no courage can steel,
 For the true noble hearts still in battle will feel.

'Tis over! 'tis over!—the contest is o'er;
 Hark! the Volunteers' praise rings on Canada's shore,
 Right bravely they fought, and for ever shall claim,
 A page in Britannia's bright annals of fame.

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