



O! SWEETEST HEART!

From the German,

BY SUE X. BLAKELY.



Sweetest Heart! In adoration
 All Heaven bows before Thy shrine,
 And we on earth intone thy praises
 In ardent love, O Love divine!
 O! Sweetest Sacred Heart! Still open,
 Our suffering Savior's side we see,
 And hear His tender words of solace—
 "O! weary souls, come unto Me."

O! Sweetest Heart! The crimson fountain
 Forever flowing from that side
 Full pardon wins for our transgressions,
 For grace comes with its ceaseless tide.
 O! Sweetest Heart! In loving sorrow,
 Our Savior's thorn-crowned brow we see,
 And weep to hear His plaintive murmur—
 "My child this pain I bear for thee."

O! Sweetest Heart! The cross which rises
 'Mid ardent fire from Thee above
 Shows that the infernal foe is vanquished
 By all who cling to Thee in love.
 O! Sweetest Heart! Our joy, our treasure;
 Our source of every true delight;
 Our guard and stay in grief and sorrow—
 Our guiding star in life's dark night.

O! Sweetest Heart! The path to Heaven
 Needs patient steps and constant ward
 But all through Thee we gain new courage
 To follow close our suffering Lord.
 O! Sweetest Heart! Our poor heart's failings,
 Thy fire of ardent love destroys,
 Until our spirits, bright and stainless,
 Dare hope to win celestial joys.

O! Sweetest Heart! Our soul's salvation,
 We pray Thee, Oh! Thou highest good,
 Accept us as Thy loving clients—
 This hope we through Thy Precious Blood.
 O! Sweetest, Sacred Heart! Receive us
 When death's dark shadow hovers near;
 Then *faith* will be a glad fruition,
 And *Thou*, Sweet Heart, a vision clear.