## university of Ottawa

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Voi. III

## A MESSAGE TO M.



ND when the gray-bird's song was done
I saw him fly across the snow,
While like a jewel all aglow
His wing shone in the setting sun
And made the world seem bright.
Still ever in my heart I heard
The song he sang ring word for word
Throughout the watches of the night,

Then when the morning came I said:
I have no greeting for my friend,
No costly gift that I may send,
So why not in its place instead
Send just the gray-bird's simple strain
Across the wintry world to her,
An echo as God's messenger
That through the snow he comes again.

So as I weave it take it dear,

This faulty rhyme all out of tune,
To bind together rose of June
And Christmas holly for the year,
Your summer time I may not know
My winter days you may not see,
But each is best for you and me,
Since One who loves us wills it so.