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A MAY-WREATH FOR OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

BY ENFANT DE MARIE.

T.

LORIOUS Queen of holy Carme!!
Robed like May-time skies of blue,
And a soft veil round thee folded,
White as snowy clouds its hue.
From afar an "Enfant" sends thee
Roses that in Erin bloom;
Varied in their mystic beauty,
Sweet, celestial, their perfume.

II.

See their fair buds, dearest Mother!
Twine them round thy virgin brow;
Joyful mysteries of thy pure heart,
We are contemplating now.
Yet, amidst our stainless garland,
Crimson flow'rets we entwine,
Like the precious Blood of Jesus,
Emblems of His woe and thine.

III.

Then these rare "tea-roses"—softly
Tinged, as with a ray of gold.
After shadows comes the sun-light,
After pain, thy bliss untold,
Not in far famed Sharon only,
Where the rippling sapphire sea
Murmurs 'neath o'ershading palm-trees
With a soothing melody.

IV.

Blow these fragrant summer roses
Where all nature seems to smile,
But in mossy dells and woodlands
Of our sainted western isle.
Breathing of thy joys and sorrows
And the glorious light above;
Culled amidst St. Patrick's shamrocks,
Twined for thee with Irish love.