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FATHER, TAKE MY HAND.

The way is dark, my Father ! Cloud on cloud Is gathering thickly o'er my head, and loud The thunders roar above me. Sec, I stand Like one hewildered! Father, take my hand, And through the gloom

Lend safely home

Thy child!

The day goes fast, my Father! and the night
Is drawing darkly down. My faithless sight
Sees ghostly visions. Fears of a spectral band
Encompass me. O, Father take my hand,
And from the night
Lead up to light
Thy child!

The way is long, my Father I and my soul
Longs for the rest and quiet of the goal;
While yet I journey through this weary land,
Keep me from wandering. Father, take my hand;
Quickly and straight,
Lead to heaven's gate
Thy child!

The path is rough, my Father! Many a thorn
Has pierced me; and my weary feet, all torn
And bleeding, mark the way. Yet thy command
Bids me press forward. Father, take my hand;
Then safe and blest,
Lead me to rest,
Thy child!

The throng is great, my Father! Many a doubt And fear and danger compass me about; And foes oppress me sore. I cannot stand Or go alone. O, Father! take my hand,

And through the throng,

Lead safe along

Thy child!

The cross is heavy, Father! I have borne
It long, and still do bear it. Let my word
And fainting spirit rise to that bright land
Where crowns are given. Father, take my hand;
And, reaching down,
Lead to the crown
Thy child!

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O SING TO ME CANADIAN SONGS.

O sing to me Canadian songs,
Let loud their music ring—
The songs our sons will love to hear,
The songs our daughters sing;
When after days of manly toil,
Wi' bairns round their knee,
They sit beside the glowing hearth
And sing for mirth and glee.

O sing me songs that in our grief
Shall make our spirits glad,
And songs to chasten wildest glee,
With thouchts deep, true and sad.
For human life, where'er we be,
Is streak't with dark and bright,
But e'en as brightness shows the shades,
The shadows show the light.

Then sing the new world songs to me,
To deep and stirring times,
Like mighty ocean's heaving voice,
Or our Norse forefather's rimes,
And if by day yo sing new songs,
And toil and keep ye true,
The night will watch you in your sleep,
And sing auld songs to you.