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NATIVITY OF THE B. V. M.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN.

The following Processional Hymn for September 8th (Nativity of the B. V. M.), we could scarcely imagine to have been written by a Protestant clergyman :

Hail ! of light and joy the day
Told of yore by sages ;
Clouds of doubt have passed away
After darkest ages.

Wave the censer ! chant the song,
Loudly swell its chorus—
Mary's banner, borne along,
Floats in triumph o'er us.

Type to fact hath given place,
Gifts for every station ;
Ave ! Lady, full of grace,
Mother of salvation.

This her natal day who came
Sun of justice bringing—
Praise her work and love her name,
Render'ng God thanksgiving.

Fairest pearl of Time's broad sea,
Brightest star of even,
More and better love we thee,
Queen of earth and heaven !
Lead thou to thy Son and God,
Drear the way before us ;
He himself that path hath trod,
And His love is o'er us.

Intercede, when sin is strong,
Christ thy voice is heeding ;
Desert paths are parched and long,
Our desires misleading.

Pray a prayer that rise we may
When we fall or stumble ;
So we wait the break of day,
Trusting, patient, humble.

As Time's festals come and go,
Autumn's tints are waning—
Faith and love and hope must grow
For great Easter's dawning.
Thy sweet smile is for us still,
Victors, homeward wending,
Then stand round God's holy hill,
Share the song unending.

Wave the censer ! Jesus' love
Sing in healing chorus ;
Mary's banner, borne above,
Floats triumphant o'er us.
Type of Truth up-bear the light,
Fall we not nor falter,
Until Faith gives place to sight
At the Lamb's high altar. Amen.

—London Weekly Register.

CANADIAN ESSAYS.

BY JOSEPH K. FORAN.

A SKETCH OF THE PAST.

(Continued.)

It is the sixth of May, 1776. So far nearly all our remarks have been confined to Quebec and the events that have taken place in its vicinity. But Quebec up to this period has been the key of Canada, the object in chief for which armies fought. Quebec was the scene of all their grand endeavors. The nation that held Quebec likewise held Canada, therefore does the old fortress city stand forth in the first rank, in the most conspicuous place in our earlier history. But while we have been studying the events around the old capital of the new country other places have been rising into existence and becoming more and more worthy of notice. Montreal is already a rival of Quebec and promises to, one day, surpass the old strong-hold in size, in commerce and in importance. Toronto, under the name of York, has made its appearance in the West. Kingston and other towns are passing from Indian villages into miniature christian cities. On the banks