

"Next rose the star of wonder in the East,
 And wise and lowly came to worship where
 The babe lay in the manger ; light more fair
 And from diviner realms led to the feast
 Which welcomed chief the one who came as least ;
 Earth's monarchies and national gods
 Trembled upon their thrones, and day increased
 With passing of the worn-out periods ;
 The realm of the within
 Was opened, and the din
 Of outer pomp fell with the lictor's rods ;
 From the great forest's moist and sun-flecked sods
 Swept the blue-eyed renewer, and for him
 God rose in spirit and truth ; the Orient dim
 Clasped hands with sun-souled Greece, and knowledge of the soul
 Glowed on the peoples as their life's supremest goal."

The stanzas immediately following describe the leavening influence of Christianity, as it spread through the world, moral chaos of the Roman Empire, when

"The time lay weltering in mere shame and fear,
 Monstrous with hopelessness and strange self-scorn,
 Whence every form of wild desire was born,
 And passions that fulfilment made more drear,"

and as it extended to the Northern races, when

"Pulsings of soul the old world never sought,
 And nobler governance of holier will,
 The blonde-haired Northerner
 Felt in him start and stir."

In the concluding part of Dr. Block's poem—The New World—he goes back again, through several stanzas, upon the history of the Old World, as if he could not draw himself away from the fascinating poetic material which it supplies.

In these stanzas he touches specially on the later scenes of European history, which formed the more immediate antecedents of the migration to the Western Continent. Among these scenes there are peculiarly stirring pic-