



EIGHTH PROMISE OF OUR LORD TO BLESSED MARGARET MARY.

"Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection."

By JOHN J. BRANIN.



AY whither does thy loving fervor lead,
O soul devoted to that Heart most meek?
When shalt thou reach the goal thy yearnings seek?

When, from the treach'rous mires which now impede

Thy progress, shall thy faithful soul be freed?
When shalt thou stand upon the dizzy peak
Which e'er before thee looms? and thou so weak,

The distance great, the climbing hard indeed.

Faint not! but ever on pursue thy way,
Though rugged be the tortuous path and steep;

Though far beyond thee seems the shining ray
That tips with gold where thou wouldst rest
and sleep:

Quick shalt thou reach the goal, thy fears allay,
So One has said, who will His promise keep.