

4     *CANADIAN POEMS AND LAYS.*

And century to century utters a glorious speech,  
And peace to war, and war to peace, eternal lessons  
teach.

III.

O grand old woods, your forest-sires were thus as bright  
and gay,  
Before the axe's murderous voice had spoiled their sylvan  
play ;  
When other axes smote our sires, and laid them stiff and  
low,  
On Hastings' unforgotten field, *eight hundred years ago.*

IV.

Eight hundred years ago, long years, before Jacques  
Cartier clomb  
The Royal Height, where now no more the red men  
fearless roam !  
Eight hundred years ago, long years, before Columbus  
came  
From stately Spain to find the world that ought to bear  
his name !

V.

The Sussex woods were bright and red on that October  
morn ;  
And Sussex soil was red with blood before the next was  
born ;  
But from that red united clay another race did start  
On the great stage of destiny to act a noble part.

VI.

So God doth mould, as pleaseth Him, the nations of His  
choice ;  
Now, in the battle-cry is heard His purifying voice