

Carmelite



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An Invitation to Carmel.

"Rosa cordis mei, tu mihi sponsa esto!"

"Rose of my heart, be thou my spouse."

—Words of our Lord to St. Rose of Lima.

I.



DIDST thou hear a soft low whisper
In the silent "gentle air,"
Like the plaintive night-wind's sighing
Through the trees in moonlight fair?
Did the strains of organ-music
Thrilling in a cadence grand
Echo to thy listening spirit
Like the songs of Angel-land?

II.

Lifting up the aspirations
Of thy youthful, tender love
To the white-robed virgins singing
Sweetly round the Lamb above?
Chosen flow'ret of His garden!
Child of Mary, "Mystic Rose,"*
Thou hast heard the invitation
To Mount Carmel's sweet repose,

* To Rose, E. de M.