When he at eve would come, But sadness ever hovered

Around his dreary home.

Were my lone hearth-stone blest,
My richest food should cheer them—
My softest fore should rest

My softest furs should rest; Their kindred drive us onward

Where the setting sunbeams shine They claim our fathers' heritage.

Why may not these be mine?" He raised the sleeping children.

Oh! sad and dreary day.

And o'er the dancing waters

He bore them far away.

He wiled their hearts fond feelings With words and actions kind,

And soon the past went fading
All dreamlike from their mind.
Oh! brightly sped the beaming sun
Along his glorious way.

And feathery clouds of golden light Around his parting lay;

In beauty came the holy stars,
All gleaming in the blue,

It seemed as o'er the lonely earth

A blessed calm they threw.

But a sound of grief arose On the dewy evening air. It bore the bitter anguish

Of a mother's wild dispair.

A wail like that which sounded
Throughout Judea's land,

When Hered's haughty minions Obeyed his dark command;

The mourning mother wept
Bécause her babes were not,
Their forms were gone forever

From each familiar spot.

Oh! had they sought the river,

And sank beneath the wave,

Or had the dark recesses
Of the forest been their grave?
The same deep tinge of sorrow

Each surmise ever bore,