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[Macfar, Agnes Manle]

Nitin W.

OUR CANADIAN FATHERLAND.

TO THE AIR OF "WAS IST DES DEUTSCHEN VATERLAND." 289

Canadensis sum et nihil Canadense a me alienum puto.

I.

WHAT is our young Canadian land ?
Is it far Norembega's strand ?
Or wild Cape Breton by the sea ?
Quebec ? Ontario ? Acadie ?
Or Manitoba's flower-decked plain,
Or fair Columbia's mountain chain ?—
Can any part—from strand to strand—
Be a Canadian's fatherland ?
Nay ! for our young Canadian land
Is greater, grander far, than these ;
It stretches wide on either hand
Between the world's two mighty seas !
So, let no hostile lines divide
The fields our feet should freely roam ;
Gael, Norman, Saxon,—side by side,
And Canada our nation's Home ;
From sea to sea, from strand to strand,
Spreads our Canadian fatherland !

II.

Where'er our country's banner spreads
Above Canadians' free-born heads,
Where'er the story of our land
Enshrines the memory of the band
Of heroes, who, with blood and toil,
Laid, deep in our Canadian soil,
Foundations for the future age,
And wrote their names on history's page,
Our history :—From strand to strand
Spreads our Canadian fatherland !
So each to each is firmly bound
By ties each generous heart should own,
We cannot spare a foot of ground
No part can, selfish, stand alone !
So Nova Scotia and Quebec
Shall meet in kinship leal and true,—
New Brunswick's hills be mirrored back
In fair Ontario's waters blue !
From sea to sea, from strand to strand,
Spreads our Canadian fatherland !

III.

Where'er Canadian thought breathes free,
Or wakes the lyre of poesy,—
Where'er Canadian hearts awake
To sing a song for her dear sake,
Or catch the echoes, spreading far,
That wake us to the noblest war
Against each lurking ill and strife
That weakens, now, our growing life,
No line keeps hand from clasping hand,
—One is our young Canadian land !
McGee and Howe she claims her own
Hers all her eastern singers' bays,
Fréchette is hers, and in her crown,
Ontario every laurel lays ;—
Let Canada our watchword be,
While lesser names we know no more,
One nation, spread from sea to sea,
And fused by love, from shore to shore ;
—From sea to sea, from strand to strand,
Spreads our Canadian fatherland !

FIDELIS, in *The Week.*

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