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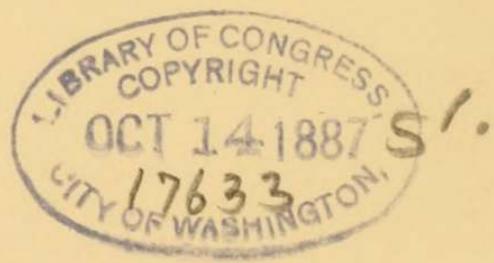
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CHRISTMAS HERALDS.

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By Annie
Webster Queen,



New York
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Hard & Parsons,
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CER the blue hills distant summit,
Through the woodland, down the vale,
Happy sunbeams wander, leaving
Golden pathways in their trail.
As sweet heralds come rejoicing
Waking joy on every side,
Saying: "Rise! your King advances,
Haste to greet the Christmas-tide!"

In the quiet haunts of nature
Where the birds in spring-time nest,
Where sweet violets reflected
Grow beside the water's breast,
Now the sunbeams passing, glimmer
On the leafless branches high,
Glance where snugly covered violets
Waiting for the spring-time, lie.

WHERE the fir-trees—arms entwining—

Group in many a graceful band,

Robed in surplice white and shining

Silent choristers to stand,

Gently now the sunbeams pausing,

Rest awhile and linger there,

As with reverent footsteps waiting,

In the hush of silent prayer.

FOR a peace unknown to spring-time,

Over the landscape seems to dwell,

And the murmuring breezes only

Words of kindly blessing tell;

Only follow where the sunbeams

Joyous footsteps lightly fall,

Breathing soft the Christmas message,

"Peace on earth, good will to all."

ANNIE C. MCQUEEN.



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