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TO MY NAMESAKE.

Martin Butler, Pouch Cove, Newfoundland.

Though waves divide us
And distance hides us
Far from each other, I give my hand
In friendly greeting
My love repeating
To Martin Butler of Newfoundland.

Beside the river
Where lilies quiver
Upon its surface so broad and grand,
In meditation
And contemplation
I think of Martin of Newfoundland.

In boyhood's hours
Amid the flowers
In hope and pleasure he roamed the land,

Or watched the ocean
In deep commotion
Its heaving billows roll on the strand.

With father, mother,
Sister and brother
And many another dear friend of yore,

Whose memory lingers
As notes of singers
Who long have passed to the other shore.

For youth and beauty
The path of duty
Opened before him to man's estate,
And toil and troubles
Soon burst the bubbles
Of youthful fancy and future great.

And summer's splendor
And blossoms tender
Were covered up in the whirling blast,
The fond hopes cherished
Lay cold and perished
And dark forebodings the sky o'er-cast.

But faith in nature
That every creature
Whom God's created will be his care,
Banished the shadows
And o'er the meadows
Hope's angel rose on the wings of prayer.

Cupid and Hymen
Who come to try men
And promise pleasures and blessings rare,
At length did find him
And tightly bind him
In love's enchanting, alluring snare.

And baby faces
With charms and graces
Before unnoticed his heart to cheer,
Entered his cottage
And shared his pottage
And lit his pathway from year to year.

May long years crown thee
And friends surround thee
In love and friendship until the day,
The gate uncloses
Where now reposes
Your friends and playmates of former days.

Although a stranger
I risk the danger
Of misconstruction when I declare
My dearest feeling
Far from concealing
I waft to you o'er the wastes of air,

The mountain passes
And deep morasses
The briny ocean and forests grand
Which part and sever
From me for ever
My friend and namesake in Newfoundland.

THE EDITOR.
Fredericton, N. B., May 8th, 1898.

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