

POEMS

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Poems by Arthur S. Bourinot

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ARTHUR S. BOURINOT

POEMS

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

Poems

By

Arthur S. Bourinot
(Author of *Laurentian Lyrics*)



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"Autumn Silence" has appeared in Mr. J. W. Garvin's "Canadian Poets".

"Trek Song", "Night on the Ottawa River", "Canada's Fallen", and "The Snake Fence", have been published in the "Current Poetry" page of *The Literary Digest*.

A. S. B.

433 Daly Avenue,
Ottawa.

“The true harvest of my daily life is somewhat as intangible and indescribable as the tints of morning or evening. It is a little star-dust caught, a segment of the rainbow which I have clutched.”

—Thoreau.

TO
NORA

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NIGHT ON THE OTTAWA RIVER

DOWN the river slowly drifting
Float the rafts of river-men,
While the light is slowly shifting
Backward o'er the hills again.

'Mid the silence rings their singing,
Voicing low the old refrain,
But the chanson gay beginning
Ends "Mironton, mirontaine".

Now the myriad lights are glowing
Whitely where the city sleeps,
While the plashing drip of rowing
Upward from the river creeps.

Low the waters murmur falling,
Moaning through the Chaudiere,
Like a whispered, ghostly calling,
Voicing deep their wild despair.

Fade the distant voices singing,
Faint recurs the low refrain,
Still the chanson gay beginning,
Dies "Mironton, mirontaine".

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CANADA'S FALLEN

WE who are left must wait the years'
slow healing,
Seeing the things they loved, the life they
lost—
The clouds that out the east come, huge, con-
cealing
The angry sunset, burnished, tempest-
tossed.
How will we bear earth's beauty, visions,
wonder,
Knowing they loved them in the self-same
way—
Th' exulting lightning followed by deep
thunder,
Th' exhilaration of each dawning day?
Banners of northern lights for them loom
greener,
Waving as waves the sea-weed's stream-
ered head;
Where bent the swaying wheat, the sun-
burned gleaner
Will find in their remembrance flowers of
red.
Oh, life must be immortal for their sake:
Oh, earth will rest them gently till they
wake.