

**POETRY FOR THE  
DOMINION  
OF CANADA**

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Poetry for the Dominion of Canada by James K. Liston

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**JAMES K. LISTON**

**POETRY FOR THE  
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# POETRY

FOR THE

## DOMINION OF CANADA,

CONSISTING OF

- I. Songs of the Canadian Winter.
- II. Songs of the Morning Stars.
- III. Shouts of the Sons of God.
- IV. The Ante-mundane State.

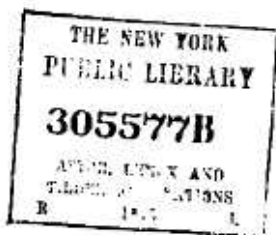
By JAMES K. LISTON.

L.C.

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1868.

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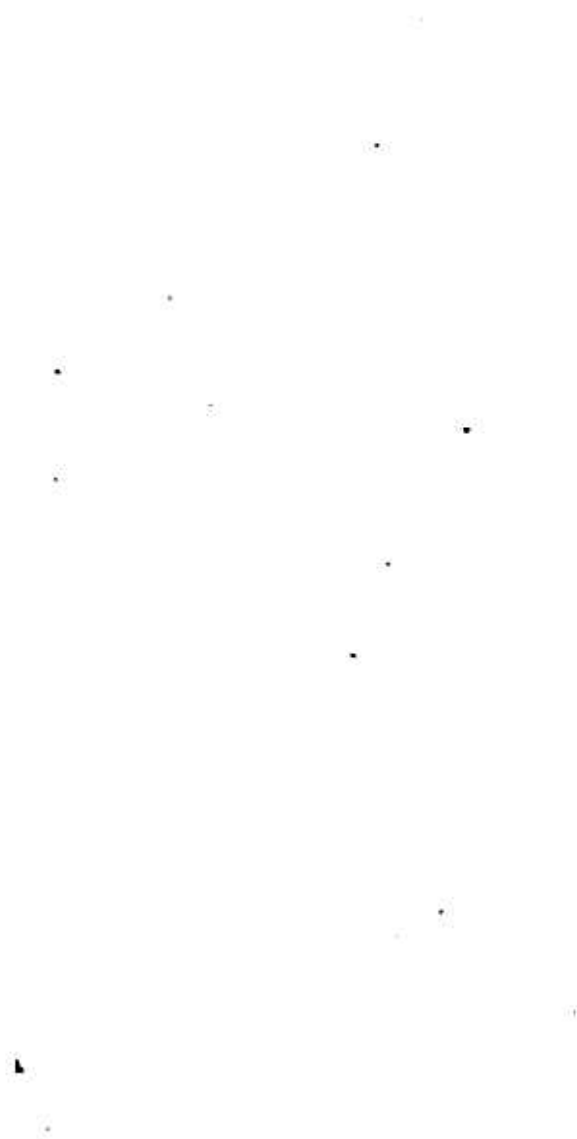
TORONTO :  
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KING ST. EAST.

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TO THE  
LITERARY AND GENERAL PUBLIC  
OF THE  
DOMINION OF CANADA,

THE FOLLOWING POEMS ARE RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,  
BY THEIR MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.





## P R E F A C E .

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These poems were the pleasure and recreation of the Author's leisure. The first was composed during the past winter, the second and third about three years since, and the last more than twenty years since.

Whatever opinion may be formed of the merits or demerits of the Songs of the Canadian Winter, the Author is confident that thousands will know and appreciate the truthfulness of their descriptions. The three last are almost exclusively the efforts of imagination, and as such they will be judged.

If the Author, by this small work, shall succeed in giving an impulse, however slight, to the poetry of this land, he shall always feel gratified ; and if he shall secure for himself a niche, however humble, in the rising edifice of Canadian literature, he shall feel more than honoured.



## ANALYSIS OF THE SONGS OF THE CANADIAN WINTER.

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1st—The stern but gradual approaches of winter; the first snows; the blades dead, &c. 2nd—Partial return of solar power and its effects; the mortality of insects, &c. 3rd—The departure of the birds; the deer; the bear; the fox and the wolf; the frogs. 4th—The navigation of the lakes and rivers suspended. 5th—The rains return, but soon change to frost and snow. 6th—Niagara described as it appears at this season; the Island; its durability, but certain though slow decay. 7th—Niagara; the tower; obedience to the laws of gravitation common to the great Niagara and the smallest rill; the eagle flying over the cataract. 8th—Even in the days of Indian barbarism, the cataract displayed the same beauty as at present, and gathered the glories of ten thousand tributaries. 9th—It nearly closed the navigation, till art and industry produced the canal. 10th—The severity of winter in the eastern part; the "habitant" driving his sleigh. 11th—The young French Canadian's courtship and marriage. 12th—Clearing the backwoods; the fall of the tree, &c. 13th—The hut of the settler and its rude comforts. 14th—The occupations of the settler's family, and anticipated result in independence. 15th—The gradual progress of cultivation; the orchards; the "paring bee" and its enjoyments. 16th—The winter becomes more and more violent; the burdened sleighs, &c. 17th—The winter sunshine; the icicle; the frost on the branches, &c. 18th—The city scenes of win-