GHRISTMAS

What time rose smoke of eve Forth from the Fane, Idemean Hand built Of blocks Cyclopean, hewn from a

Carven with artist-cunning by the Greek are need there was for chinel's de touch

Strength, beauty, raming Temples he had reared

Where mortal Cassars worship had as goe's: Thus mightiest Herod, by the Caesar's grace

Ruling domain larger than David had, Having a shadowy sense the Lord is King, Though Caesar was some nearer, deemed it

His throas, a muttering ruin shaking then-Would placate God, and make of Caesar friend.

So h: mig t have, as prrachers sometimes teach,

The best of both the worlds, this-that to COMICI

Even than, days of Setrothal yet, in inner mcon

Knelt Mary, bowed in worship of her race -Mary, the peasant maid, of royal line-

When shrouding veil of glory Angels bring, Swathed her in radiance, the Archangel spake:-

"Hail to thee, Mary-Mary full of graces "The Highest will o'ershadow thee, thy

Son-"The Son-of-God, Man's-Son, earth's throne

- shall take.
- "And of His Kingdom never shall be end."

But Mary, peasant, prescience could no! have

That slow must grow that kingdom which is Peace;

The native warring-hatred in earth-sou's Refusing pact with peace-sole peace on earth.

Which is when men lose self in God's vast All-

Even in flesh part of Eternity:

- Not wolting of the way the Christ would lead,
- Burst into song that sounds through cen. turizs: -

"My soul doth magnify the Lord,

"Rejoicing in my God -my Savio

"Hand maiden low, henceforth shail call me bless'd

"All generations, for to me great things "The Mightiesthas done-Holy His name:

"They are exalted who are meek and low, "The proud and rich are empty sent away.

"And help is with His servant Israel, "As was the promise to our fathers ma

"To Abraham and his seed for evermore."

Thou Light that wert, and art, the Life of man

Not without shrinking, drankest thou the

From the beginnings, unto mortal lips Mortality has pressed nigh to its dregs-Mortality! its individual span LASS MAR SIGNA PLANE

to with source of can give you All you have to do will receive the

correct Thin

and enjoyme

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Too brief to reach to spirit-perfectness, Save with the favored warriors of the race Who have the help of angels in their fig Because of fight-of warrior might in fight Against man's foe, that ill which dwells within

The deep recesses of each half-free souls-Struggling towards that Light which is man's

Life,

Whereto, if men will battle, they shall win Somewhat-somewhere, somehow-of per-

fectness

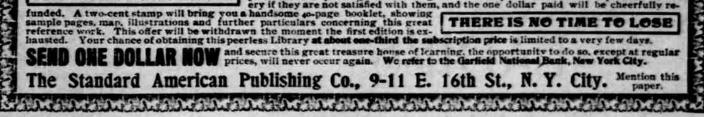
That life which is obedient unto death, Rising to freedom in the Life of heaven.

Obedient e'en to death-that is the law Wherein all duty's summed, nor incomplete-

And who could teach it but the Virginborn:

True man, from whom obedience is due, Yet, God-fullfilled, and needing not a law: Of what were earth, thou missing from its links?

"City of dreadful night" to who so thinks, And feels the touch of human misery; Though careless laughter gives to that no heed,



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Thou camest with a peace, a Roman peace,

Peace waiting on the sword, conditioned thus,

Men breathe their breath at Rome's Imperial-will:

A:e, in their millions, tortured broke in shards -

By wanton luxury and cruelty, Dwelling together, brutish twins of hell. Even Israel just a zealot ignorance,

Her priests and rabbis counting naught the

law, Obrdience unto death - obedience, That, being stricken. strikes not back again: Whereby the soul is fined, as lillies fair, Which blossom in the fields, albeit they, Nor toil, nor spin, nor do they weave their

Yet, in their glory, outshine Solomon

robes.

Glad Christmastide-let sorrow have sur cease

Where'er man dwells-be merry, sit at feasts:

For thus the imperfect symbol perfect joy Of which this day is promise for our kind.

> * .5 38 38

O! holiest, rarest covenant by blood -By men, earth-born, but rarely understood The will to take the wound, yet, not to strike:

Man-victim Christ, make thou of men thy like. -IDYLA

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