

THE
PRINCETON POETS,

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STEPHEN ALEXANDER.
THE NATION'S HOPE.

O second Land of Promise,
E'en of this latter day,
A promise that in mercies
God's finger did portray.

Land in whose wondrous progress
Was His right arm revealed,
Who did her hosts encompass
"With favor as a shield."

Land of God's preparation,
As centuries rolled on ;
Scene of his great salvation,
For centuries to come.

Land thence, of God's adoption
Where he designs to raise
Through many generations,
A Temple to his praise.

Land of the pilgrim exiled,
Land of the would-be-free,
Land of the open Bible,
Thence land of liberty.

Land of God's benediction
In all that makes us great,
Where duty joined to privilege,
In union stand complete.

The light of her example
Has flashed across the sea :
Just where the burdened nations
Are struggling to be free.

And they, in that rejoicing,
E'en now begin to raise
For disenthralled religion
The voice of prayer and praise.

To take complete possession
Of this inheritance,
Behold, in long succession,
A peaceful host advance.

To plant the rose of Sharon
Through all the prairies wild
The lesson of the lilies,
Tell to each saddened child.

And Gilead's balm to carry
Unto each nook and glen—
Commission sanitary,
Commission Christian then.

And where the miner's treasure
Is hailed with gladdened eyes,
The priceless pearl to proffer,
But proffer without price.

Till on the Nation's Highway
God's temples mark the road,
And from each mountain by-way
Sounds household praise to God.

Till from the stormy ocean
That bounds us on the east,
Unto that World of waters
That terminates the west.

And from the Central Valley,
And o'er our broad domain,
Each generation passing,
Shall to the next proclaim

The wonders, of his dealing,
Who did our fathers lead ;
His grace for grace revealing,
In every time of need.

His mighty acts tell over,
And ne'er His love forget,
Who in His mercy saved us,
For sacred union yet.