

PREFACE.

IN offering this little book to the public I feel that I owe my readers an apology for doing so. It is not that I claim any merit whatever for my humble productions, or am actuated by any ambitious motives, that I thus introduce the defective offspring of my poetic fancies. It is only at the importunity of a number of my friends that I have yielded to their desire to have my poems published.

I can give no other motive for my daring to touch the "magic pen" of Poesy than an innate admiration of its manifold beauties; none save to give expression to the various feelings and convictions that held my heart captive. In consideration of this fact I crave the forbearance and sympathy of my dear readers while perusing these few pages which, as I am well aware, abound in errors, and trust that this little book will not merely be looked upon as a subject for harsh criticism, but will rather be admitted as a little household friend, and find a warm corner in the hearts of my dear countrymen.

S. V. GILBERT.

PENETANGUISHENE, ONT.