

PREFACE.

The writer of these verses began to rhyme early, two booklets of hers having been printed before, the first in 1892, when she was eleven years old. One of these booklets was exhibited by an American lady at the World's Fair in Chicago, and gained a Diploma of Honorable Mention. The verses were also approved by good literary authorities who examined them.

Dorothy is of Scotch-German-English blood, and was born close to the banks of Bryant's "Green River," a poetic neighbourhood. Her parents, who were British subjects, shortly after came to Canada, and have lived in the land of the maple since that time. She has never been sent to any school, and to this is owing, probably, the quality of her first verses. As one literary man remarked, "had she been sent to any of the ordinary public schools on this continent, she could never by any possibility have written the verses that are in her first booklets." In her case, the fact that she did not seem robust enough to go to school, was doubtless a gain, so far as her mental development was concerned. Limitation of environment is, under some conditions, a positive advantage.

It is worthy of note that the only high-class literature that has appeared on this continent is the production of