

the Canadian List of Authors, as having written something besides Statutes and Tables of Statutes;—

In Morgan's useful book my place is small;
In stately Taylor's work I've none at all.—

I *may* have a secret aspiration for a higher place in the former and some little obscure niche in the latter:—"Vanity perhaps assisting." I have arranged the pieces almost always in the order of their birth, and the earlier ones are therefore the most sentimental. I was young then and am old now; but hope you will think the lines on old Christ Church, and the touching *In Memoriam* to the *Times*, shew that in my old age the quality is not quite extinct in me.

But, you may ask, why should I, a rather ancient Q. C. and Law Clerk of the House of Commons, write and print verses. My good friend, what I have done officially is the very reason and justification for what I am doing now. An English author apologizing for his hero, an apothecary, who attaches a short poem to the neck of his physic vial, exclaims,—

"Apothecary's verse!—and where's the treason?"

"If patients swallow physic without reason,"

"It is but fair to add a little rhyme;"—

and asks indignantly—

"Can n't men have taste who cure a phthisic."

"Of poetry tho' patron God,

"Apollo patronizes physic."*

Now I have helped to make the public to swallow some thousands of pages of heavyish reading prescribed by legislative doctors, in the shape of laws, and I am, therefore, not merely entitled, but bound in fairness, to give them a *little* rhyme? Lawyers and Legislators have been poets. A grave Lord Chancellor of England in advising students at law as to the distribution of their time, after bidding them give six hours to the

* See Notes,