

PREFATORY NOTE.

It is with a feeling somewhat of diffidence that I present this little volume of poems to the scrutinizing gaze of the literary public; but I beg to remind my friends, for whom chiefly I have collected these stray bits of verse and given them book form, that I do not presume in so doing to aspire to the rank and title of poet, for such an one, I believe, should be he who has devoted the greater part of his time to the cultivation of the poetic faculty. To this very object I would gladly have given the strongest energies of my life, but an overruling Providence has ordained otherwise. I trust, however, that to you, my friends, who have walked with me through many seasons of life's sun and shade, this little book may prove in some measure a source of both pleasure and profit—at least, a reminder of your friend,

S. E. S. F.

HAMMOND, N.B.,

September 10th, 1903.