

Author's Preface.

structure than what might be as readily accomplished by any man of education and literary instincts, with a gift of rime and rhythm. The scheme itself and the intermittent composition inevitably caused some repetitions in general conception and in epithets. No one could be more conscious than myself of these defects or inadequacies, but I confess my inability to remove them. The only criticism that would really hurt and that I would really resent would be by anyone who would rank them with the positive banalities of Kipling's verses in the recent joint-history of England. But if the poems, along with the Introductory Essay, at all assist in promoting sane patriotism (which means respect and love for the history and institutions of one's own country, without implying or fostering disrespect for other civilizations), they will have accomplished their purpose and have justified their publication in this little volume.

J. D. L.