

INTRODUCTION.

THERE is no excuse to offer for these verses. They were written more for pleasure than for publication, in the few spare moments that fall to the lot of a newspaper man. If they meet with public approval, well and good ; if not, the consolation remains, that few ever succeed in this department of literature.

MUCH is demanded of the modern verse writer. His work must be clear and natural ; it must combine the real with the romantic, and, above all, the treatment must be both robust and artistic. If I have failed in this respect it is not because I do not comprehend the ideal, but because of the greatness of the task.

J. A. C.

TORONTO, May 7th, 1892.