

## PREFACE.

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A prudent writer doubtless hesitates before publishing his first book. The apprehension of criticism, the doubt of ability to meet the demands of the reading public, and the harrowing thought that the manuscript may be considered as trash, are some of the reflections of the author as he arranges the chapters for publication.

A desire to preserve in permanent form some of the memorable scenes and incidents that transpired during my observation of the first settlement of Northern Kansas and the homestead region, was the motive of the author in writing the following pages.

These sheets were written during the interval between office hours, while I was engaged in the arduous duties of Receiver in the U. S. Land Office; and aware of defects, I trust this apology will be received kindly by friends among the early settlers, who I hope may be able to find something to interest and amuse them in these pages.

Many of the incidents related came under my own observation; but I am indebted to others for much information, to whom I have endeavored to give credit in the proper place.

THE AUTHOR.

CONCORDIA, KANSAS, January, 1880.

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## THE NORTHERN TIER.