

## P R E F A C E .

In the usual general history, little of nothing is said of the territory now embraced within the limits of Indiana county. The peculiar characteristics of the first settlers were such as to fit themselves, as well as their descendants, for the “grand talent for silence,” and little effort has been made to rescue the past from oblivion. They have taken but a small part in historical investigation, and what preserved recollections are yet extant, are from the pens of adopted citizens and strangers.

There are many advantages in a local history, yet there is much to offend the eye of the cultivated reader. The annals of the village, the stories of the massacre, the traditions of the trails, the memories of the pioneers, etc., are well worthy a place in a volume like this.

Every citizen should be familiar with the history of his own county and state, and the student should commence his researches in historical lore with the annals of the neighborhood in which he resides.

The non-resident reader and the critic, the narrative will appear insipid, crude, and arranged without regard to taste. The editor is well aware of the deficiencies, but his motto has been “facts not style,” and presents the matter as the best, with a limited time and a reasonable expenditure of money, he was able to prepare.

It is impossible for the editor to mention the many persons to whom he is indebted for the courtesies and assistance in preparing matter for this work.

He here expresses his thanks to their kindness and appreciation, which were a valuable aid and encouragement to preserve to its completion.

This volume, with all its imperfections, will by the base for a future revised and enlarged history of the county, and posterity will not be ungrateful for the record of facts and statistics, its sketches of the past, its scenes and actors, and its outlines of general history.

The abbreviations in the genealogical matter, and other places, as “b.” for *born*, “m.” for *married*, “d.” for *died* or *deceased*, “B.” for *biographical sketch*, “W.” for *warrant*, “P.” for *patent*, &c., will be readily understood.

THE PUBLISHER.