

INTRODUCTION.

"Both Sides of Manitoba" was written more to while away the long evenings of a Manitoban winter, than with any immediate view to publication. I had been reading one of the average pamphlets on Manitoba, and had arrived at the conclusion that it would not be discouragingly difficult to obtain more entertaining reading. The dose of information was too strong, with my knowledge of the dispensary, and being devoid of all flavoring, had a tendency to induce nausea. The average man does not care to take his physic straight, however good, and doubtless the individual who invented sugar-coated pills realized a fortune.

While turning the subject over in my mind, it occurred to me that a book might be written on Manitoba that people would read purely for the narrative, and that into this narrative might be smuggled occasional items of practical information without seriously affecting the ordinary reader's digestion. It also occurred to me that, as I had plenty of leisure, and as my ideas in regard to what would interest the reading public were so remarkably comprehensive, it would be in order for me to write this presumed excellent book myself. The reasoning was conclusive, and I at once commenced the task. This, in brief, is my method of accounting for the perpetration of the following pages. The manu-