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PREFACE.

IN presenting this work to the public, the compilers wish to state that the object, which they trust they have attained, is to provide a work which will prove not only useful but interesting, and that every exertion in their power has been made to render it full, complete, and reliable; and though, from the variety of sources from which it was necessary to obtain the required information, and the impossibility of avoiding *all* errors in a work of this description, inaccuracies may be found, especially in the orthography of surnames, the Publishers trust that as few mistakes will be discovered in this work as in any other of the same character, and that it will deserve the approbation of its patrons.

We deem it our duty to return our sincere thanks to those who have so liberally patronised the undertaking, not only in a pecuniary sense, but also by providing us with information of the greatest value, and for the universal courtesy and kindness we experienced during our canvas of the county. A deep sense of gratitude prompts us to particularize Colonel Banting of Cookstown. Messrs. Nicholson, of the *Examiner*, Crew, of the *Advance*, W. D. Ardagh, reeve, George Lount, registrar, and W. B. McVity, clerk of the peace, of Barrie, Dr. Ardagh, Rev. John Gray, and J. C. McMullen, Esq., of Orillia; Messrs. Peter and Broughton, of the *South Simcoe News*, Bradford, and Jas. Fewes, Esq., of Wyebridge.

We beg also to acknowledge our indebtedness to the researches of Wm. E. O'Brien, Esq., of Shanty Bay, John Lynch, Esq., of Brampton, Peel, and W. W. Smith, Esq., of Owen Sound, from whose excellent reports in "The Transactions of the Board of Agriculture," and other works, we have made copious extracts.

McEVOY & Co.