

PREFACE

FOR the inception of this story of a Michigan farming and lumbering community, and for much of the material which has entered into its composition, the author is indebted to Mr. John W. Rhines. His long experience in that section of the country, his personal reminiscences, his acquaintance with men and women of the time, his graphic descriptions of places and incidents, and his constant and hearty co-operation during the progress of the work, have given the author substantial assistance, without which this task would hardly have been undertaken or completed. The author acknowledges also the courtesy of Mr. Edwin N. Burton in placing at his disposal the reminiscences of his brother, Mr. Frank S. Burton, from which such facts and incidents have been borrowed as have seemed needful for the purpose of this book.