

## FOREWORD

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IF anyone doubted the genius for research in the historical field which Miss Janet Carnochan possesses, the following pages would dispel the doubt. The work is an example of elaborate and untiring investigation. It embodies the fullest details of the history of Niagara. All the phases of the town's existence since the days of Governor Simcoe, every incident that reveals the close connection between the growth of the place and the development of the Province, are to be found here. The local narrative is in itself of wide interest because Niagara is a kind of mother-colony, and from it have gone forth to other parts of Canada families and individuals retaining memories and traditions of the early settlement. But the book is much more than local in its theme. As the first capital of Upper Canada, where the Legislature began its sessions, as a battle-ground in the War of 1812, as a border town intimately associated with international disturbances, Niagara touches national history at many points. Miss Carnochan has left nothing unrecorded. From the rich stores of her knowledge have been drawn details of political, social, religious, educational and commercial beginnings. We get a complete picture of life in one of our oldest and most interesting towns, and can reconstruct in the mind's eye what Canada was like more than a cen-