

INTRODUCTION.

Dear Reader :

I trust you will bear with me in this, my first, endeavor to give you an insight into the ancient history of Iceland and trust that the following chapters may interest not only yourself, but also others, who may desire to gain a knowledge of the progression of Iceland, from the earliest times to the present date.

As you are aware it is very difficult to place before you in an efficient and proper manner, an almost literal translation which can be easily understood, to thoroughly interest the reader. But I have in this work endeavored to translate the original into readable English.

sincerely hope that this, my maiden effort, may be the means of causing the outside world to become more acquainted not only with our history, manners and customs from early times But prove to the world at large that Iceland has a history peculiarly her own.

My readers will notice by reference to the map I have caused to be inserted in the work, the divisions into which the land was divided in ancient times and will find it a guide to the better understanding of the topography of the Island.

I have also inserted several portraits of eminent men mentioned.

I must thank MR. A. W. DICKSON for his able assistance in helping me to put this work in appropriate form, but at the same time should there be found any mistakes, he is not responsible for them.