

P R E F A C E .

This edition of the West Riding of the County of Northumberland and County of Durham is here presented to the public, with that degree of diffidence which a profound anxiety with regard to its thoroughness, accuracy and general utility would naturally occasion in the mind of the compiler, and yet with the proud consciousness that every effort which experience could suggest, or patient labor accomplish has been made to insure its fullest efficiency. The compiler has spared no pains to make this work reliable, even in the most trifling details. It is hoped, therefore, that the general arrangement will be highly useful in referring to the various departments.

Many new and original features will be found to characterize the work throughout that need not be enumerated here, the information has been chiefly obtained from official sources and can therefore be relied on as being correct. The merchant, manufacturer, and others will find it invaluable as a reference for his customers, post office address, in mailing letters, accounts or circulars, as well as a guide in giving credit.

It is not to be expected that a work of this character, embracing so many particulars, gathered from so many sources, can be entirely free from errors, perfection so difficult of attainment in every department of industry, is especially so in a compilation of this description. But, for such errors as may be found within these pages, the kind indulgence of the public is solicited, in view of the general reliability and correctness of the work.

The compiler desires to present his grateful acknowledgments to the press, county, town, township officials and others, who have so kindly and promptly furnished him with much useful information, which otherwise would have involved both time and expense to procure. He also tenders his sincere thanks, to the merchants, manufacturers, and the various professions for the substantial aid and encouragement received by way of subscriptions and advertisements; which it is to be hoped will prove as remunerative to them as this work will prove useful to the thousands of readers whose interest or pleasure may lead them to consult its pages.

E. EDWIN DODDS, Compiler.