

## PREFACE.

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THE CHATHAM DIRECTORY AND COUNTY GAZETTEER is now offered to our patrons and the public. It is to be hoped it will supply a want for a full and reliable directory which business people and others have long felt. Its publication has been attended with considerable expense and labor, and the low price at which it is being sold will very inadequately remunerate the publisher even with the very liberal support accorded it by advertisers to whom we tender our thanks.

Beyond the mere (although full) directory of names and business lists, one half of the entire work is devoted to a full and general description of the district and its resources, and a full and interesting, historical and descriptive sketch of the Town of Chatham, and will, in regard to public and official matters generally, form a reliable guide of the County and an index to its growth and prosperity.

Absolute correctness in a work of the kind is an impossibility, and the liability to error is increased by the unavoidable delay in the publication, but by noting and correcting the various changes as the work was going through the press, and by adding a supplementary list of new names and appointments, we are confident the work will be found substantially correct and perhaps far more satisfactory than any similar one which has preceded it.

That it will contain a very much larger number of names than any other local directory ever published, is certain, for although the directory published in 1876 (a very creditable undertaking) contained nearly as many pages, a comparison of the two works will at once show the great difference—the pages of the present work being compact, full work and containing double the quantity of matter. The comparison will be still greater when it is stated that the present directory is sold at but half the price of the former.

Chatham, 1st May, 1886,

JAMES SOUTAR,  
PUBLISHER,