

## PREFACE.

THE present volume has been prepared in obedience to what seemed to the writer to be a call from those, "the pioneers of the great valley of the Mississippi and their descendants," between whom and Doctor Linn there was, during his lifetime, a long subsisting association, a mutual esteem and interchange of good offices, which from the beginning became more and more intimate and cordial, until the ties which thus bound them together were severed by the hand of death.

Few men were more thoroughly identified with "the Great West" than Dr. Linn, and no one took a livelier interest in all that concerned the great Valley of the Mississippi and its enterprising people, or labored with greater zeal to develop its resources, open and improve its highways, by land and water, with a view to expedite the occupation of its rich soil and inviting climate by the temperate sons of toil from the East, and to facilitate its commercial intercourse with other parts of the country.

It is gratifying to know that the subject of this memoir is remembered through the fruits of his labors, by thousands to whom he was not personally known, but of whose interests, while he occupied a seat in the Senate of the United States, he was never unmindful or neglective; and that his memory is still affectionately cherished by other thousands to whom he endeared

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