## PREFACE.

The author, after most exhaustive researches, beginning with February 1, 1867, and extending at intervals over the period of twenty-six years since elapsed, has succeeded in collecting material for a History of his native County. This valuable and interesting matter is presented to the public, hoping it will be acceptable and satisfactory. Much care and discretion has been used to render the following pages correct and full as circumstances permitted.

While more important documents are copied verbatim, the unvarnished substance is usually given, because more generally in keeping with views of our people, since the Ancient Records contain many lengthy repetitions in the form of Preambles.

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