

## PREFACE



I N laying this work before the Public, we do not intend to make any invidious distinction between Capital and Labor, but rather to show how their interests are identical, and that a spirit of mutual dependence should mingle with the cordial relations that ought to exist among all the members that comprise both parties.

The strength and power of Capital, when properly utilized and distributed, with a generous regard for the comfort and welfare of those who labor to produce it, may be considered as a mighty means of developing and advancing the progress and interest of whole communities.

Although it cannot be denied that many great Capitalists in their inordinate desire to acquire wealth, completely ignore those whose muscles and sinews are placed at their disposal, yet we have many noble examples of employers of labor who realize that their employees are human beings, and are entitled to the same consideration that they receive themselves.

The scope of the present work is to give the history and details of the great commercial enterprises of our vast Dominion ; to give a brief sketch of the leading men whose ability and business capacity have raised them to eminence in their different positions ; and an expression of opinion by eminent men on economic subjects.