



P R E F A C E .

The present volume is the third of a series intended as a contribution to a Complete History of the Borough of Bradford. The town itself alone remains for treatment, but whether the present Author will be given length of days, or be courageous enough, to undertake the task, remains to be seen. In any case the work thus far continued should be carried on to completion, in order that the History of Bradford, so ably commenced by the late John James, may be brought up to date.

It will be obvious that the ample material brought together in the township histories already published by the Author, namely, those referring to Horton, Bolton, Bowling, Manningham, Heaton, and Allerton, bears no comparison with the scanty notices of those townships in James's History, and affords sufficient evidence of the necessity of the present effort. The unearthing and arrangement of such a mass of material has involved much patient labour and no inconsiderable amount of time, but these the Author has willingly expended in the endeavour to furnish an original contribution to the history of his native town. All such efforts are necessarily attended by the liability to error, either in collecting the material or in presenting it in a readable form, and the reader needs only to be reminded of this to ensure sympathy and indulgence where mistakes are discovered. In any case the Author holds himself responsible for any inaccuracies.

For assistance rendered him in obtaining information, the loan of documents, &c., the Author hereby tenders his

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It is worthy of mention that the whole of the artistic work, as well as the printing, has been executed in Bradford. Under the first heading, the Author is especially indebted to Mr. Oliver Nicholson for the admirable results obtained by him in photographing the full-page views throughout the work. The engraving of the plates has been executed with equal success by Messrs. William Byles and Sons, who are also responsible for the letterpress. The portraits have been satisfactorily reproduced in the collotype process by Messrs. Appleton & Co., photographers. The frontispiece was specially designed for the work by Miss Nannie Preston, of Littlebeck Hall, Gilstead, and it is an admirable conception. The smaller sketches are by Mr. W. F. Wray; and other artistic assistance has been rendered by Mr. Alfred Drake, Mr. Henry Muff, Mr. Frank Nicholson, and Mr. C. H. Shaw. The laborious task of indexing was undertaken by the Author's son, Ernest.

The Author cannot conclude this introduction to what may be his last literary effort without a sincere expression of thankfulness to the Committee of Gentlemen who have interested themselves in obtaining subscribers to the work. Without such practical assistance its publication would have been impossible.

W. CUDWORTH.