

PREFACE.



THIS preface is not written for the purpose of offering in advance,—as authors and publishers often do,—an apology for errors and imperfections in the work which follows. To make such an apology is to admit a knowledge of inaccuracy and imperfection, which the publishers do not believe to exist to an extent worthy of notice, in the OFFICIAL STATE ATLAS OF NEBRASKA.

It has been prepared with the determination to make it as complete and as accurate as possible, and with this object in view, the patient and persevering labor of a large corps of surveyors and mappers for almost two years (equivalent to more than five years' work of one person) has been given to the preparation of this work, and it is now presented with full confidence that the verdict of its patrons will be one of approval.

The work embraces a general map of the State, showing the relative position of each County (as divided up to the adjournment of the State Legislature of 1885), the location of Railroads, Cities and Villages, the principal Streams and much topography, not heretofore obtainable. This is followed by separate maps of the different counties of the State drawn on a much larger scale, on which the details are more thoroughly given; there are also plans of the leading Cities and Villages throughout the State, which have been carefully prepared from the official records of each. To make reference to any County, City or Village, plain, simple and easy, the draughts have been placed in the work without reference to their location, and the whole indexed in alphabetical order.

In the preparation of these plans many perplexing difficulties have arisen, taxing to the utmost the skill of those engaged in the work. In some instances the early records have been only partially preserved or imperfectly kept, while in others they have been entirely destroyed—leaving us dependent upon the oldest residents for much necessary information, hence variation in names and dates may sometimes appear.

All the roads shown on the several county maps have been declared public highways, but many of them have not as yet been opened.

In placing the school-houses on the maps, the object has not been the exact location of the buildings, but to indicate the existence of the school districts and numbers, placing the buildings somewhere within said district as near the true location as possible. The Government Surveys have been followed in the compilation of each county, except where changes were found necessary, and reliable data for such alterations were obtainable.

Much information has been gleaned from conversations with the best informed people and oldest residents of the State, of whom a very large number have been called upon and consulted; and all, with a few exceptions, have fully and freely, to the extent of their ability, imparted the information sought. The number of those who have thus given us information is so great that it is impracticable to give them separate individual mention, but grateful thanks are here tendered to each and all for the assistance which they have extended. We desire especially to acknowledge the consideration and kindness of the State Officers, prominent among whom are the Surveyor-General and his assistants: the County Clerks and their deputies; Surveyors; Superintendents of Public Instruction; the county officers in general; and the press of the State.

The publishers desire to thank the citizens of the State of Nebraska for the support they have given the undertaking, and to assure them that in its production they have endeavored to merit their approval.

E. & K.

Philadelphia, Pa., May, 1885.