SIX YEARS IN THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST

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Six Years in the Canadian North-West by Jean D'Artigue

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JEAN D'ARTIGUE

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Trieste

SIX YEARS

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THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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MONS. JEAN D'ARTIGUE.

Translated from the French by L. C. Oorbett, Esq., B. A., and Rev. S. Smith, B.D.

Toronto: HUNTER, ROSE AND COMPANY. 1882.

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Eutered according to Act of the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two, by JEAN D'ABTIGUE, in the Office of the Minister of Agriculture.



PREFACE.

THIS Book, which I dedicate to the Canadian Public, is not a work of fiction, but is purely historical. In writing it, elegance of style has not been studied, but rather a simple relation of facts as they occur. It may be wanting in interest to the lover of imaginary adventure, but to those who love the truth, I trust it will be found sufficiently interesting to repay a perusal.

My object in undertaking this work is not to gain notoriety, but to furnish the Canadian Public with an account, not yet given by any writer, of the object of the organization of the North-West Mounted Police Force, the trials, privations, and adventures which they encountered, and the results of the expedition.

This book is divided into three parts, the first of which contains a history of the campaign of the North-West Mounted Police, in the year 1874, under command of Colonel French, and though it is short, it relates facts which should form a few pages of Canadian history and Preface.

being an eye-witness, I have simply stated the facts, leaving to the general public the task of deducing conclusions.

The second part contains the history of our sojourn in the far North-West, and gives an account of the journeys made by myself over vast plains; the first, undertaken to acquaint myself with the manners and actions of the Indians in their primeval state, and the second, in discharge of official duty, and to study further the Indian character.

The third part is an account of my return journey from Fort Saskatchewan via Saskatchewan and Red River, and Lakes Winnepeg, Superior, and Huron to Sarnia, and thence by rail to Quebec. This part will be found the most interesting of the three, and also the most useful to intending settlers in the North-West as it contains geographical and agricultural information which will give an idea of the future of that region traversed by the Saskatchewan.

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