

**KANSAS  
MISCELLANIES,  
PP. 1-216**

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Kansas Miscellanies, pp. 1-216 by Noble L. Prentis

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**NOBLE L. PRENTIS**

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# KANSAS MISCELLANIES.

BY

NOBLE L. PRENTIS.

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"As the gray and melancholy main to the sailor, the desert to the Bedouin, the Alp to the mountaineer, so is Kansas to all her children."—JOHN JAMES INGALLS.

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**Second Edition.**

TOPEKA:  
KANSAS PUBLISHING HOUSE.  
1889.



TO  
MY BEST FRIEND,  
SAFEST GUIDE, LITERARY COUNSELOR,  
AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATE,  
**My Wife,**  
THIS LITTLE BOOK  
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

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## PREFACE.

It is believed that the contents of this little volume will explain its title. They are miscellaneous, and everything between the covers has some reference to or connection with Kansas, and Kansas people.

"Battle Corners" was suggested by a visit to the battlefields of Prairie Grove, Pea Ridge, and Wilson's Creek. There is no attempt to give a historical account of those battles. A critical narrative of one of those combats would fill a volume like this. There is no attempt to catalogue the brave. What is here are but the reflections of the writer—an effort to describe the localities as they are now, with the hope that others may be led to visit them; and the recollections of three old soldiers, given after the lapse of many years, and without aid to the memory, but, it is believed, given so vividly that others will see with the mind's eye.

"The World a School" has appeared in print in many forms, and was included in the volume known as "A Kan-

san Abroad." It appears here at the suggestion of many friends.

For the rest, it may be said that they consist of sketches which appeared originally in Kansas newspapers, and of addresses delivered to Kansas audiences. These are presented, without regard to lapse of time, in the form in which they received the honor of being copied in Kansas newspapers, and the kindly mention of Kansas people. They are selected from a mass of writings, the labor of nearly twenty years, in which there has scarcely been a day when the writer has not said some word for Kansas, the land of the sunflower and the breeze. To the always-lenient judgment of the Kansas public they are again committed.

TOPEKA, February, 1889.

N. L. P.

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#### NOTE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

The favor accorded the first edition of this book has induced the publication of a second. This edition contains a number of corrections and changes; some in the interest of conciseness, some in justice to the facts. For the benefit of eyes which fade and fail as we grow old, it is printed in larger type.

TOPEKA, August, 1889.

N. L. P.

## KANSAS MISCELLANIES.

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### BATTLE CORNERS.

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IT was in the closing days of the year 1888 that the writer, in company with the Commissioner, visited the country which will be spoken of in these pages as "Battle Corners."

In the school atlases in vogue in the early '50's there were patches of red or yellow covering the southwest corner of the State of Missouri, the northwest quarter of the State of Arkansas, the southeast quarter of what had recently become the Territory of Kansas, and the northeast quarter of what had been reduced to the present Indian Territory. In the Missouri quarter there was one dot—Springfield; in the Kansas corner a star—the Government military post of Fort Scott; in the fraction of Arkansas a dot—it was probably Fayetteville, though it may have been Fort Smith; in the Territory the solitary mark indicating Fort Gibson.

Scattered about in this region the metes and bounds of which have been loosely indicated, were given in ir-