

**THE WILDERNESS
AND THE ROSE: A
STORY OF MICHIGAN**

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The Wilderness and the Rose: A Story of Michigan by Jerome James Wood

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JEROME JAMES WOOD

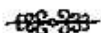
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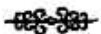


A Story of Michigan

BY
JEROME JAMES WOOD



"Hae ye a leisure moment's time
To hear what's comin'?"
—Burns



HUDSON, MICH.
WOOD BOOK COMPANY
1890

12-6-1927

DEDICATORY

To THE memory of my Mother, a noble woman whose voice is hushed and stilled, but who in her day saw the wilderness of Michigan blossom like the rose, this volume is reverently dedicated.

J. J. W.

HUDSON, MICH., Nov., 1890.

342225

"BEHIND the scared squaw's birch canoe,
The steamer smokes and raves;
And city lots are staked for sale
Above old Indian graves.

"I hear the tread of pioneers--
Of nations yet to be;
The first faint wash of waves, where soon
Shall roll a human sea.

"The rudiments of empire here
Are plastic yet and warm;
The chaos of a mighty world
Is rounding into form."

—Whittier.

PREFACE

It is the intent of these pages to delineate the scenes and incidents of pioneer life in the Peninsular State. It has been the aim to present, in the characters of the narrative, composite pictures of men and women who were active participants in the events of the historic period of the Great Lake State, and who helped to make the commonwealth what it is to-day.

The purpose has also been to preserve the flavor of the romances and adventures of our forefathers, who abounded in humor as well as philosophy, and who extracted the most there was from the practical side of life.

Michigan has attained a proud place in the sisterhood of States. The recent census, if we mistake not, advances her to the position of the eighth State in the Union, so that we may well be boastful of her progress in things material. Southern Michigan is famous the country over, as a garden spot. If you will turn to a map of the State and put your finger on Lenawee county, it will, according to government reports,

be resting upon the most fertile county in the entire United States. Upon its western border and extending somewhat into the far-famed county of Hillsdale, the scene of this story is laid, and will be warrant enough, perhaps, for its living in literature.

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